DAILY REPORT

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CLANDESTINE SIGNAL INTERFERES WITH BROADCAST

PY161243 Paris AFP in Spanish 2236 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Mar del Plata, 15 Feb (AFP) -- It has been reported in this city, located 400 km south of Buenos Aires, that a clandestine radio broadcast, apparently of the Montoneros extremist group, interfered last night with the radio broadcast of the final match of the Argentine soccer championship.

According to unofficial sources, the broadcast of the match between Estudiantes and Tallers was interrupted by a voice that identified itself as being from the Montoneros group (leftist Peronists) and immediately went on to harshly criticize the current Argentine military government, while the Peronist march was heard in the background.

The interference of the self-styled Radio Liberacion could be heard only in this city for a short while, because its broadcast was soon blocked, apparently with modern electronic equipment.

NICOLAIDES DOCUMENT REAFFIRMS DEMOCRATIZATION

PY162349 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] The following is a report on a seven-page document released by Army Commander in Chief General Cristino Nicolaides in Mendoza in the presence of the Mendoza garrison troops where he has been supervising exercises by mountain units. A report by a nonofficial news agency which was published today by a Buenos Aires afternoon newspaper states that General Nicolaides reaffirmed the Army's decision to guarantee the country's move toward institutionalization. He warned, however, that it is his responsibility to avoid excesses and to prevent those disguised advocates of totalitarianism from succeeding in their attempt at denying, in the name of freedom, the Argentine people the right to enjoy this very freedom.

In the document released at midnight, Nicolaides stated: We are neither better nor worse than the rest of the people and our positive and negative qualities are no different than theirs. He was thus addressing Army servicemen. Regarding the role of the Army at this stage when the move toward democratization is the main issue, Nicolaides said the Armed Forces have reaffirmed their unwavering decision to institutionalize the country and their commitment to devoting their best efforts to achieve this goal.

In a paragraph devoted to political and other national leaders, Nicolaides said he expected a positive contribution from responsible leaders who should propose feasible solutions to our problems without overlooking constructive criticism and without indulging in widespread, useless criticism which will only lead to frustration and confrontation.

Nicolaides said: I fully assume the challenge of this hour and I am determined to act as firmly as might be necessary, without concessions or pretty considerations, to enable our Army to guarantee national sovereignty and internal peace, which are essential for the country's future, in keeping with its specific responsibilities.

Regarding charges made recently against Army officers, Nicolaides said criticism is paramount in a democratic system, in a sound society. He made it clear, however, that some are mistaking criticism for offenses, slanders or injuries, thus abusing freedom of expression. Through generalizations which are damaging to our institution, they are pursuing spurious goals.

Nicolaides added that in the face of possible ideological infiltration in the country within the process and of growing subversion, resentment and speculation, he assumes responsibility for avoiding these excesses to prevent those disguised advocates of totalitarianism from succeeding in their attempt at denying, in the name of freedom, the Argentine people the right to enjoy this very freedom.

Regarding the present national situation, Nicolaides said the Argentine society is now experiencing a crisis of confidence and tranquillity, the direct consequence of which is that each citizen now views with uneasiness and skepticism both the country's immediate future and his own future. Nicolaides concluded by stating that both right and wrong decisions were made. He said: Yet I believe it would be to no avail to stop and discuss them here since this will not contribute to finding solutions at this serious juncture.

URUGUAYAN FOREIGN MINISTER PAYS VISIT 9-11 FEB

Joint Declaration

PY122012 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2100 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Feb (TELAM) -- In a joint declaration released today at 1700, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Maeso reiterates his country's firm, longstanding support of Argentina's legitimate, sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands. The document, which outlines the issues discussed during a 3-day visit made to our country by the Uruguayan minister, emphasizes the fraternal, friendly spirit and growing cooperation which have characterized Argentine-Uruguayan relations and touches regional and international political issues. The ministers reviewed major international trade issues, especially those to be discussed at the meeting of ministers from the Group of 77 which will be held in Buenos Aires from 28 March to 9 April 1983, the document adds. In this respect, the two ministers stated that the serious international financial and economic crisis calls for Latin American integration and economic cooperation which, in turn, requires the strengthening of existing regional multilateral organizations.

Concerning bilateral issues, the declaration states that the two foreign ministers discussed several aspects of relations between their two countries and expressed the need to further economic cooperation and trade. To this end, they stated that the informal talks initiated between officials of the two foreign ministries in Buenos Aires on 27-28 January to establish new areas and specific mechanisms of cooperation will be carried on in the next few months in keeping with the established timetable. They also stated that officials and experts of other areas will attend these meetings and agreed to promote meetings of businessmen from those sectors in which trade and economic cooperation could be intensified, the declaration says. Among other considerations concerning Minister Maeso's visit, the declaration states that Maeso invited his Argentine counterpart Juan Aguirre Lanari to visit Uruguay at a date to be set through diplomatic channels and that Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari accepted the invitation with thanks.

Maeso Departs

PY112157 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1902 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Feb (TELAM) -- Uruguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Maeso ratified Uruguay's traditional support for Argentina's legitimate rights over the southern archiplagos. The Uruguayan foreign minister made this statement at the metropolitan airport a few minutes before his return to Montevideo, after an official 48-hour visit to Argentina. Foreign Minister Maeso departed at 1545.

BILL PROVIDES FOREIGN DEBT REPAYMENT IN PESOS

PY161702 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 27 Jan 83 p 9

[Text] The Senate approved yesterday the revised version of a bill dictating that the debts of the agricultural sector are to be paid back in Bolivian pesos, disregarding the latest changes in dollar exchange rates. The loans disbursed in Bolivian pesos, even if subject to a "dollar clause," will be refunded to creditors with the same amount of pesos received by the debtors. The debts for loans made in foreign currency will be repaid at the exchange rate of 145.50 pesos per dollar in compliance with the law whereby debts will no longer be repaid in dollars. The difference resulting from the new exchange rate will be covered by the national treasury, according to the bill which has now been submitted to the Chamber of Deputies.

The debate over this bill lasted almost 4 hours and in the end it was approved with the favorable votes of the MNR [National Revolutionary Movement], the ADN [Nationalist Democratic Action], and the MNRI [National Revolutionary Movement of the Left] blocs. The senators from the PCB [Bolivian Communist Party], the MIR [Revolutionary Movement of the Left], and the PS-1 [Socialist Party 1] voted against the bill.

This is the text of the bill:

The National Congress decrees:

Article 1. All credits granted to the country's agricultural sector before 5 November 1982 by any banking institutions -- state or private banks, development corporations and other national development institutions -- will be repaid as specified below:

A. Credits transacted in foreign currency, which are or will become due and which were fully disbursed in Bolivian pesos directly or through current account deposits, will be repaid with the same amount of pesos received as prinicpal plus the ordinary interests agreed on in the original contract. The same treatment will be given to credits granted in Bolivian pesos which are due or will become due.

B. The credits transacted in foreign currency, which are or will become due, and which were disbursed in the currency specified in the credit contract, whether in cash or in a freely negotiable endorsed check, will be repaid in national currency at the exchange rate of 145.50 Bolivian pesos to the U.S. dollar. The time limits for repaying these obligations will be doubled from those orginally stated in the contract. During the credit life originally contracted, interests will be paid only according to the rate established in the original contract. During the expanded credit life, the debtor will repay the principal in 6-month installments plus ordinary interests at the same rate originally established.

Article 2. Debts contracted, with the endorsement of banks or other financial enterprises, before 5 November 1982 for the purchase of agriculture machinery abroad will be settled in Bolivian pesos at the rate of exchange of 145.50 Bolivian pesos per dollar. The banks or financial enterprises which endorse the credit will extend its maturity date by 5 years and repayment will be made in 6-monthly installments. During the 5-year term the interests rates will be the same as those agreed upon originally in the endorsed contract and no commissions will be paid.

Article 3. All lawsuits demanding the payment of mature debts which are mentioned in the aforementioned articles are hereby suspended, regardless of the state they have reached. All orders for the withholding of money or securities are hereby cancelled, as well as embargoes on personal property, real estate, vehicles and machinery, which will be returned to their owners so that they may be used for productive activities.

Punitive interests on all these debts are cancelled from their beginning. Defendants are exempted from paying any court fees or any other expenses that may stem from lawsuits demanding the settlement of debts, as long as no sentence has been handed down.

Article 4. The treasury of the nation, through the Central Bank of Bolivia, has the duty of compensating the banks or financial enterprises for the difference resulting from the new exchange rate in the settlement of the aforementioned debts, according to a special regulation to be issued by the executive branch within 30 days from the day on which this law is promulgated.

LETTER OF INTENT SIGNED WITH CSSR 10 FEBRUARY

PY102229 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Text] The governments of Bolivia and the CSSR have undertaken an extensive bilateral cooperation program. Bolivian Foreign Ministry and CSSR Embassy officials this afternoon signed a letter of intent to promote trade and bilateral cooperation. This is a result of talks held here in the last 2 days by a special mission. The CSSR has disclosed its intention of offering aid to Bolivia and of installing energy, cement, and metal working plants. Attending the signing ceremony were the Bolivian foreign minister and CSSR charge d'affaires who hoped that this undertaking, which is aimed at improving bilateral relations, will be a successful one.

COMMUNIQUE CRITICIZES CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN BOLIVIA

PY162329 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 11 Feb 83 p 7

[Text] An organization called the "Community of Nationalist Parties of Bolivia" formed by Bolivian civilians and officers who are struggling against the Marxist designs of Hernan Siles Zuazo's government issued a communique which, among other issues, states: "The leaders of the nationalist community and the civil-military unified command for the resistance to the communist regime headed by the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP), the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), and the Communist Party, which in the name of Bolshevik-style democracy govern the people of Bolivia, denounce before our fellow citizens and the international community the establishment of a Cuban satellite in the very heart of America, whose purpose is to spread subversion and guerrillas to the neighboring countries, and whose clear intention is to turn the violent struggle in the southern cone of Latin America into another Vietnam.

If Che Guevara failed in his purpose to turn the Bolivian territory into the Sierra Maestra of South America, Siles Zuazo's communist government will now fulfill Che's dream and purpose with the support of the entire state apparatus that includes a military hierarchy formed by old-timer militias and improvised officers who have been formed within the government's state apparatus.

We base our statements on the following facts: Ever since the communist regime was installed, Cuban planes, with great freedom of flight, have been landing at night or dawn far from the control range of El Alto Airport in La Paz, and unload various types of arms, ammunition and other materiel consigned to government authorities, who are earmarking them as equipment for peoples' militias and terrorist commandos, since the government does not trust the Armed Forces' young officers, the police or other forces. In payment for the arms the Cuban planes return to the Caribbean loaded with drugs, cocaine, which has been seized or taken from government warehouses."

EXTREMISTS CLASH WITH POLICE IN VINA DEL MAR

PY161827 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Extremists who were involved in a clash in Renaca were carrying false identity papers, according to sources in charge of investigating the event.

The police found an identity card issued in the name of (Julio Gonzalez Mendez) on one of the bodies, while the extremist who was wounded was carrying an identity card issued in the name of (Pedro Burgos Ibanez). The latter is still hospitalized in the Valparaiso navy hospital.

The clash took place when the two extremists tried to avoid a police car check point and started shooting at the police. As a result of this, one of the extremists was killed and the other was wounded. Police personnel confiscated a large quantity of explosives. The incident took place on the day when the Vina Del Mar song festival opened.

CUTCH REPRESENTATIVE IN CUBA INTERVIEWED

PA111925 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with Calvarino Melo, representative in Cuba of the Chilean Trade Union Federation; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] The 30th anniversary of the Chilean Trade Union Federation [CUTCh] is being commemorated in February. Calvarino, why don't you briefly talk about the specific date and the circumstances in which the CUTCh emerged in Chile?

[Answer] First of all, I want to thank you for this interview, because this anniversary is very important for the Chilean workers. The CUTCh is the fulfillment of an old desire of the workers, that of having a single workers federation. This was achieved on 12-15 February 1953 in Santiago, Chile. The most varied political, independent, Catholic and non-Catholic labor forces participated in this. An expression of this participation was the directorate. I can mention some important things. There were five slates: The [words indistinct] list, which elected 3 leaders; the number 2 slate, of the communists, socialists, radical and national falangists, electing 13 advisers, the popular socialist slate, electing 9; and the Trotskyites and other slates, which did not elect any. The president was unanimously elected [words indistinct]. This was the old dream of the workers. They wanted to have a single confederation at their service.

[Question] There is no doubt that in the three decades of existence of the CUTCh, the most difficult period is that of the last almost 10 years of fascist dictatorship in Chile. How has the CUTCh been able to remain alive among the Chilean working class?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] face fascism, which we always saw as being far away in Europe. Perhaps because we were inexperienced, we thought that it would not arrive in our America with the harshness with which we have experienced it in these years since the September 1973 coup. It was natural that the fascists' hatred would be directed at the workers and the parties to which the working class belongs -- the communists, socialists and [word indistinct] radical. They suffered the largest number of dead and executed. They have the largest number of exiled companeros and disappeared companeros. If you review any list, you are going to find a large number of workers, young, old [words indistinct].

This anniversary touches us very deeply, because we want to pay a very warm homage to the Chilean labor movement and the international labor movement [words indistinct], the international solidarity of all the countries that have helped us to continue onward. With all its murders, repression and hatred, the dictatorship has not outlawed [words indistinct]. There's no demonstration where our banners of the single confederation do not appear. There's no demonstration by any Chilean organization where there are no CUTCh slogans. That is why we say the CUTCh lives in Chile and abroad, because there are a million Chileans also raising our banners (?abroad). That is why this anniversary is very important to us, because it is going to be commemorated inside and outside Chile.

[Question] Can you briefly talk about the current political situation in Chile? It seems there is reaction against Pinochet among the young sectors of the Chilean population.

[Answer] The truth is that we were born fighting fascism. From the beginning we were against the coup d'etat. They seized the workers' confederation headquarters, the federations, the funds, everything, so as to immobilize us. The CUTCh is currently illegal, but the federations, confederations, the provincial federations, the unions [words indistinct]. They are working with new leaders [word indistinct] that is, born from the people, from the workers. As is natural, their economic and social policy is mistaken because it is at the service of the transnational companies and the small monopolies of the Chilean aristocracy. [Words indistinct] and at this moment the economic crisis leads to the social and political crisis in our country.

Therefore, there is unanimous repudiation of Pinochet by the workers, even by the labor federations that initially supported the government. The parties, even those of the rightwing, are against the government. [Words indistinct] the farmers of the south, including the dairy cattlemen and lumbermen, men who have never been alongside the workers, are now against the government. They accuse the government of serving the big national banks which [words indistinct]. Therefore, the political crisis is very deep [words indistinct].

HAVANA CITES SOCIALIST PARTY COMMUNIQUE

PA162215 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] The outlawed Socialist Party of Chile issued a communique that calls for the establishment of a popular, democratic and provisional government and to use all forms of struggle to overthrow the fascist regime in Chile.

The communique says that the military dictatorship led by Pinochet has increased the country's foreign debt, isolated the country, destroyed the bases of production and reduced job sources in Chile.

ACCEPTANCE TO NONALIGNED PLEASES GOVERNMENT

PA161732 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Bogota -- Colombia was pleased to learn that the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement had accepted it as a full member of the organization. According to Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo the country will now pursue greater activity in the international field. Carlos Sanz de Santamaria, Colombian ambassador at the UN, who negotiated the request for admittance to the movement, said that this is a decision of sovereignty and a means of seeking new forums and the solidarity of those who share some problems with Colombia. Sanz de Santamaria told CARACOL that despite the mixture of ideological positions, the movement brings together a large number of Third World states.

BETANCUR SPEAKS ON END OF ECONOMIC EMERGENCY

PA130021 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 12 Feb 83

[Speech to the nation by Colombian President Belisario Betancur; place not given -- live]

[Excerpts] First of all let us talk of peace, specifically of domestic tranquillity. I know that it has been affected by kidnappings and other crimes in the past few days. You have heard me reiterate without hesitation that peace and the personal security of the housewives, workers, businessmen, cattlemen, students, actors -- in short, of all fellow countrymen -- is what we need to progress without being affected by contradictory and negative interpretations of our current and future actions to accustom the country to a democracy in which everyones opinion is valid. Without weighing the good or bad points of the amnesty that was overwhelmingly and generously approved by the Congress with the participation of all political sectors, we are seeking resources to show the country that we do everything possible for assuring peace and tranquillity of each Colombian. The government works in this way, convinced that peace is the first thing that Colombia needs. I am not only speaking of the hand extended to the guerrillas that is so important, but also of your security and of the urgent need to extend to you maximum protection against common criminals. To achieve this objective, we are allocating over 30 billion pesos to expand and better train the police and to obtain the most modern and effective equipment so that we can victoriously confront the criminals against whom there is and will not be any indulgence. We will utilize powerful communications equipment so that the authorities can quickly learn of the crimes and can arrive in time to capture the criminals. We will do the same with laboratories, weapons and transportation vehicles. We will also buy helicopters in order to pursue the criminals in the cities as the most modern police do. The battle has already begun to return tranquillity to you so that honest people will feel safe.

Strictly fulfilling our constitutional duty, we have sent our decisions to the Supreme Court of Justice and we have convened Congress to study all the decrees issued during the economic emergency that ended at midnight last night.

Sometimes voices emerge that try to pit us against the top legislative body of Colombia, the Congress, by saying we have invaded their area. This has never been the government's intention. We have done what we did because the country needed it and needs it with absolute urgency. We could have Colombia's advance to total bankruptcy, to let Colombia go bankrupt. Our work was not only to prevent the government from going bankrupt, but also to not permit a halt to the education, health and housing tasks, to find a way to pay the teachers and police without reaching the extreme of not having enough to pay their salaries, as has often occurred in national activities.

Our task was also to assure that money would not be diverted by corrupt offcials. That is why we are not only dismissing the dishonest employees, but we are also going to thoroughly reorganize the National Tax Directorate and National Customs Directorate because all the laws that we have issued to obtain new resources would be useless if we did not stop immorality at any cost. We are preparing a bill for submission to congress so that methods can be established to find and punish illegal enrichment by immortal people who might exist in the administration. Since we have asked your efforts, the least that we in the government should do is to assure that taxes be used for everyone and that they will serve you through security, schools, hospitals, aqueducts and sewers.

We have done the absolutely urgent and necessary things within the economic emergency. I am sure that the honorable congressmen, on carefully reflecting upon and studying all we have done, will see it this way. Of course, we were not exactly watering a garden; instead, we were extinguishing a fire and preventing other fires. We always acted with the best lawyers, who told us what we could and could not do because we have a deep respect for Congress and the Supreme Court of Justice. To be more precise, I tell you that we were not only trying to put out fires but trying to prevent those same fires from recurring.

COMMISSION TO STUDY INTEROCEANIC CANAL

PA121423 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Feb 83 p 7-A

[Excerpt] Carlos Martinez Simahan, Colombian mines and energy minister, said during the opening of the second international seminar on energy planning staff that is being held at this city's convention center that the government will focus special attention on an analysis of the viability of building an interoceanic canal in Colombia. The high-ranking official said that he had been authorized by the president of the republic to announce the appointment of a commission that will prepare feasibility studies for the project. The commission will be composed of high-level experts from Colombia and other countries interested in the project, Martinez expalined. The minister made the announcement during a speech characterized by calls for continental cooperation on energy.

Within this range of possibilities, the minister outlined to the seminar participants the huge hydroelectric potential of the river network of the Choco territory and the relationship between these resources and the overall development of Colombia's northwest and the neighboring region of Central America.

Options

The options to be reviewed by the canal commission include: building a sea-level or a locks canal, or using land bridges or a dry canal [canal seco]; practical cooperation with Panama; and the industrial and economic possibilities of the region. According to the minister, this last option involves the following aspects, which are of major importance to Colombia's northwestern region:

Construction of two ports on the Atlantic (Gulf of Uraba) and on the Pacific (Humboldt and Cupica Bay).

Establishment of refineries (to turn ores into metals) by using the hydroelectric energy of the Atrato River.

Establishment of maritime transportation industries to render services from Colombia toward the Altantic and the Pacific.

Establishment of storage, packing and distribution industries.

Establishment of a new transportation infrastructure linking the area with the country country's interior.

BOLIVIAN EMBASSY DENIES ALLEGED SUBVERSION

PY161823 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 16 Feb 83 p 8

[Text] The Bolivian Embassy yesterday issued a communique denying press reports about alleged subversive activities sponsored by the government. This is the text of the communiques:

"In view of local press reports that foreign forces are allegedly present in its territory; that such forces would be setting up an operations center to spread subversion and guerrilla activities in neighboring countries; that Bolivia may be receiving Cuban arms supplies, and that Bolivia may be providing arms to a subversive movement operating in a neighboring country, the Bolivian Embassy in Paraguay states:

"1. The democratic and constitutional Government of Bolivia strongly rejects the fanciful reports released by the self-styled nationalist community and civil-military unified command, groups of unknown origin without any legal status.

"2. Those false reports are tendentious and are aimed at both disrupting Bolivia's internal order and confusing the international public about the Bolivian democratic process.

"3. The democratic and constitutional Government of Bolivia respects the principle of self-determination of the peoples and does not and will not tolerate any interference in its internal affairs. Nor will it tolerate the dissemination of slander that seeks to impair its legitimate consolidation process.

"4. The false reports that are being circulated by the above groups, which lack representativity, tend to create a negative atmosphere and to impair the international image of the Bolivian Government, particularly among neighboring countries with which the Bolivian nation maintains the most cordial and friendly relations on the basis of respect for an observance of the main principles of international law."

RIGHTS GROUP REQUESTS RELEASE OF PRISONER

PY170140 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Feb 83

[Text] The Paraguayan Human Solidarity Commission has demanded that political prisoner Margarita Baez be given amnesty so that she can recover her health in another country that might give her asylum. The above demand was made in a signed document delivered to Panamericana by Severo Rodas and Juan Ayala, chairman and deputy chairman of the Paraguayan Human Solidarity Commission. The commission reports that Margarita Baez was detained at a clandestine printing shop of the PCP [Paraguayan Communist Party], whose secretary general is Oscar Creydi.

The commission adds that violations of human rights in Paraguay are known worldwide but are whitewashed for the sake of imperialist designs.

During 80 full days, Margarita endured several forms of torture. This is the second time she has heroically resisted the brutal, Nazi-style torture applied on her by General Stroessner's repressive apparatus, the commission says. Due to torture, Margarita Baez miscarried when she was 5-months pregnant while in detention in 1976. Later, she had to undergo medical treatment to overcome a brain lesion after her release, the commission adds.

After her arrest on 16 February 1982, she was kept in a standing position for a week. Later, she was hung by one hand from a window, facing the sun, in the middle of Asuncion's summer [words indistinct]. She was blindfolded at all times and her nails were pulled out. They attempted to drug her with an injection and they tied her feet and hands and placed her on a chair in a room filled with aggressive ants which inflicted more pain to her brain, the commission adds.

Since her arrest, she has been kept awake with blows to the body and with ice water baths. The chief of police himself threatened to quarter her, as had been done with other prisoners, and fired three shots at her pretending that he was going to kill her, the commission says.

As a result of this torture, the commission adds, Margarita Baez suffers hallucinations and her brain lesion has worsened.

UNION LEADER DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS ARRESTED

PY150131 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 13 Feb 83 p 7

[Excerpt] Representatives of the Inter-Union Solidarity Committee disclosed that Ruben Lisboa, head of the executive board of the Bank of Brazil's labor union and delegate to the Federation of Bank Employees (Fetraban) was arrested on Palma Street yesterday morning by two plainclothes policemen. Lisboa was arrested while distributing leaflets that referred to the difficulties which the workers of the Paraguayan glass factory (FPV) are undergoing.

Later on Lisboa's relatives confirmed that he had been arrested and was being held incommunicado at the investigations department.

Union Leader Released

PY151327 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 14 Feb 83 p 8

[Excerpt] Ruben Lisboa, head of the executive council of the union of the Bank of Brazil employees and delegate of his union to Fetraban [Federation of Bank Employees], was released this morning at approximately 0915. He had been detained at the Asuncion police investigations department for distributing a leaflet of the Inter-Union Solidarity Committee.

ALVAREZ ADDRESSES NATION ON PROCESS 8 FEB

PY090219 Montevideo Domestic Service in Spanish 2332 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Speech delivered by Uruguayan President Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez, retired, from Government House in Montevideo on occasion of 10th anniversary of the beginning of the institutionalization process -- live or recorded]

[Text] Fellow citizens:

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the beginning of the civic-military process of national reconstruction and consolidation, a process which was started on 10 February 1973, I have deemed it necessary to address my fellow citizens in order to recall those significant events and to make, on the basis of those events, an analysis of both the present situation and our possibilities for the future.

I do not seek to answer or offend anybody. First and foremost, I seek to disclose contemporary historical facts as they are, since they have been so curiously concealed, after a period during which the government, for the sake of a peaceful transition to the democratic institutionalization of our country, has kept mum. The evaluation of a significant historical event such as the process we are going through cannot be made without going back to its origins, that is, to the facts that brought about the process. Even though I may be repeating generally held views, it is important to recall, as I did when I assumed the Presidency, that the Armed Forces were compelled to intervene in our country's political scene -- an area they had traditionally been outside of -- as a result of the serious political and socioeconomic crisis. Had that crisis not been halted, its consequences would have destroyed forever our freedom and our lifestyle.

The inability of the political power, impaired by many years of demagogy and irresponsibility to the detriment of national interests -- and evidently overwhelmed by the criminal actions of subversion, the widespread public alarm over that situation and party leaders' concern over the possibility that elections might have been impossible to hold in November 1971, led the public authorities of that time to put the anti-subversive struggle in the hands of the Armed Forces.

The struggle which then started caused considerable sacrifice and called for substantial efforts, and while considerable material resources had to be employed, it also took the lives of many young and useful people, not only among civilians but also among the military.

All of this greatly influenced the spirit of the Armed Forces and of the citizenry, giving rise to a reassuring stage where, on the basis of increasingly strong agreements, ranks were closed behind the defense of high national interests and traditional values.

As the struggle was waged, unsuspected situations were made public and the staggering political and socioeconomic crisis our country was going through was revealed, to the amazement of all Uruguayans.

The urgent need to overcome that serious crisis -- a breeding ground for subversion -- so that the bloody sacrifice would not be in vain, also became evident.

After 8 months of successful operations during 1972, the Armed Forces were able to inflict a severe defeat on the military and logistic apparatus of subversive organizations which were operating in the country with strong foreign support. Nevertheless, this success was not enought to eradicate the other subversive structure which was rooted in multiple and important national levels.

Therefore, it was necessary to continue with the operations and undertake actions against those factors that were either in favor of or supported these subversive structures, such as economic irregularities, administrative corruption, and the infiltration and deviation from basic principles of educators, unions, cultural circles and the National Congress itself.

The successful campaign against subversion, which was warmly supported by the public, caused great concern within some political leaderships and certain congressional circles once the immediate threat of terrorism was overcome, since they maliciously presumed that the Armed Forces' proposals and their increasing popular support were aimed at achieving the substitution of political power. However, the real objective was none other than restoring order and the enforcement of the law.

The considerable congressional record is filled with reports clearly showing the different maneuvers that were used to demoralize and tarnish the prestige of the Armed Forces, and to block and undermine any action that may have affected the interests, privileges, or shameless activity of political sectors. It suffices to review the legislative bulletin and press reports of the time to see the numerous charges of offenses, the number of problems submitted to Congress [plantamientos in sala], requests for reports, interpellations, constant summonses of ministers to offer explanations, questionings, projects of censorship and incredibly long meetings that were held with the obvious objective of obstructing [the action of the Armed Forces] and to create a climate of public opinion opposed to the actions of the Armed Forces.

This clearly showed the degree to which the branches of subversion had been able to infiltrate political and public opinion making bodies in view of a so-called freedom that was granted by a regime that was undermined by years of weakness and corruption, the naivete of many and the idleness and complicity of others. The concern shown by certain political sectors forced them to the point of exerting pressure on the executive branch to appoint a new political leader for national defense so that through him and through his actions, they would be able to deactivate the military commands and cancel all actions undertaken by the Armed Forces to restore order on the domestic level, and to achieve peace for the development of the nation.

This incident was the reason for the February crisis 10 years ago. Aware of the irreparable implications of the political maneuvers, the military commanders immediately expressed their concerns and disagreements to the president, and on the basis of superior motives, such as concern for the security and the future well-being of the fatherland, they requested the president to remove the newly-appointed minister, since they had no other choice but repudiate his authority.

These were some of the indisputable facts that we are reminding our fellow citizens of on this anniversary. Moreover, it is also necessary to recall at all times that the Uruguayan Armed Forces did not assume the responsibility of co-participating in the political leadership of the country with the goal of building a totalitarian state as has happened and still happens in many parts of the world, or to install a despotic personalistic government. The Armed Forces took on that responsibility only and exclusively to assure at the proper time the return of true representative democracy and the proper operation of political parties, mainly those having traditionally nationalist roots.

It was for that reason that, on 9 February 1973, through Communique 4, the Armed Forces, which belong to the people, reported the following: The Armed Forces are not merely a body for repression or surveillance but, as an essential part of society, they must intervene and help to solve national problems in keeping with the law, and they must always direct their actions at strengthening the democratic and republican ideals of the people.

Today, in keeping with the ideals we defended, we are strictly fulfilling the different stages provided for by the political plan that was drawn up for the purpose of achieving the democratic institutionalization for which we all wish.

Therefore, as was announced at the proper time, the political parties organic law was drawn up and approved -- an unprecedented legal event in our country -- so that parties could be reactivated and so that they could operate, as much as possible, without falling into the same mistakes that led to their previous failure. So, party leaders were elected through internal elections in a fully normal process. Those leaders have assumed the responsibility of reactivating their respective parties, of updating party charters and platforms and of preparing them in the most rational, responsible, efficient and constructive manner for the elections scheduled for November of 1984. Those leaders will also have to represent their fellow party members in the dialogue which, during this year, will be held concerning the text of the Constitution which will be subject to a plebiscite.

We trust that we shall attain our goals through loyal, respectful and constructive dialogue, so that we may draw up a text that, without either reservations or concealed attitudes, will satisfy everyone. The historic responsibility of those who will act as representatives of their respective trends of opinion is of great significance because an agreement must be reached in order to move on to the next stages of the political process that has been planned. I am sure that my fellow citizens will understand that the dialogue, which should be approached with a constructive attitude and which should be aimed at defending national interests, will be facilitated by an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect.

We know very well that some emergency regulations will remain in force up until the new Constitution is approved and that some party leaders are concerned over that situation. This is mainly the case of those who, blinded by their impatience, have been unable to realize that we are going through a transition period which, as such, must be conducted with moderation so that it does not provoke instability. But this cannot be the reason for deplorable actions which would seriously imperil the atmosphere of understanding the dialogue called for.

The conventions elected by the three legally authorized parties -- which in keeping with the recent internal elections represent approximately 56 percent of the constituency, that is, 1,162,493 valid votes out of 2,083,991 citizens with the right to vote -- are made up of leaders who have assumed the responsibility of representing their fellow party members in a task that calls for moderation, since they must work for the common good and seek the path leading to reconciliation.

We do not believe that the maturity and calmness the present historic situation calls for has been evident during the pre- and post-election campaign since the following was neither mentioned nor repudiated: the action of international Marxism, the latent subversive and Tupamaro scheme, the serious problems that brought about the present civilian-military process and the national [word indistinct] which has been ironically called national convergence which harbors behind its very broad front certain domestic political trends having [words indistinct] international Marxism. Moreover, we believe that there were some unedifying actions such as provocations, aggressive actions, lack of respect for the dead to justify the glorification of those who reneged on the cause of democracy to affiliate themselves with the communist-subversive political alliance, lack of respect and consideration for persons who because of their age and honorable personal and public life deserve the recognition of their fellow citizens despite the fact that some people may disagree with their ideas, erroneous demagogic positions which were used to achieve a temporary election victory and relied on verbal aggressions and the slandering of political opponents and lastly what is more alarming: the reappearance of some procedures that are completely contrary to democratic principles.

These were evident in the well-known Marxist techniques of the student and union assemblies which belong to the past and were always repudiated, in which jeering, booing, psychological pressure, verbal terrorism and physical threats were used to achieve any kind of [word indistinct] and unanimous decisions.

We cannot believe that the large majority of the Uruguayan people, who are characterized by their civil culture and well-known love for peace, justice and democracy, agree with these attitudes, but we do believe that the traditional political parties, that are part of the history of this country, must be conducted in this democratic fashion.

We believe that as a result of those deviations a large and decisive number of citizens, who up to now have not participated in the political process, must create a national movement that will restore and preserve the genuine guidelines, practices and thoughts of our traditional political parties and, therefore, of our fatherland.

We have to realize that our country has suffered too much in the past to allow such an important task like the one ahead of us, that is, establishing the basis for the Uruguay of the future, to be interrupted by passions, impatience or personal and sectorial interests. You can be sure that the process to rescue the country from the most serious crisis in its history has not been undertaken so that, after many years of great efforts made by all sectors of the nation, chaos and anarchy will be allowed to return.

In the message I addressed to the nation when I assumed the Presidency I promised that I would comply with the guidelines of the process and that it would be completed. In addition to guaranteeing the full exercise of individual rights, I also urged all citizens to exercise their rights in a responsible manner.

To conclude, on the 10th anniversary of the assumption of the Armed Forces of their commitment to the Uruguayan people in February 1973 I believe it is necessary to reassert all those ideas. Thus, it is only appropriate to state that the guidelines, motives, objectives and aims of the process have not changed at all and are still fully valid. Thus, we wish to state formally that no one should suspect that we will ever return to the political, institutional, social and moral situation which was the cause of the crisis we experienced and which led to the launching of this process in 1973.

We have said before and we repeat now: Only when we receive the conscientious, dedicated and generous help of all Uruguayans, will we achieve the final, basic and everlasting goal of the process of national reconstruction and strengthening, that is, the happiness of the Uruguayan people, a cause for which we will struggle regardless of anything or anyone who may oppose us. Good night.

BRIEFS

NEW SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT -- (Jose Pedro Gatto de Souza), today assumed presidency of the Supreme Court of Justice. The other members of the court are justices (Enrique Frigerio), (Ramiro Lopez Rivas), (Juan Jose Silva del Cavi), and (Pons Degenga). [Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Feb 83 PY]

SWEDISH AMBASSADOR DEPARTS -- President Lieutenant General, retired, Gregorio Alvarez has granted an audience to outgoing Swedish Ambassador Lars Karlstrom, who greeted the president upon ending his ambassadorial duties in Uruguay. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Feb 83 PY]

COSTA RICA'S VOLIO VISITS, STATEMENT ISSUED

FL101316 Bridgetown CANA in English 1216 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, Feb 10 CANA-REUTER -- Mexico and Costa Rica yesterday agreed to work jointly in the search for peace in Central America. A Mexican Foreign Ministry statement issued at the end of a two day visit here by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez said both countries agreed on the need to find a peaceful and negotiated solution to the problems in the region with the participation of all interested states.

Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, in his first press conference since taking office two months ago, said Mexico and Costa Rica were eager to find a common denominator in various peace proposals submitted for the region. But he emphasised that Mexico's view was that no country in the region should be excluded in the peace negotiations. "The principle of non-discrimination should be respected," he added.

A "forum for peace and democracy," a multilateral group pledged to promote peace in Central America but excluding leftist-ruled Nicaragua was set up in Costa Rica last October at U.S. prodding.

Mexico and Venezuela have submitted their own peace proposals calling for direct negotiations between the U.S. and Honduras and Nicaragua.

The U.S. has been at odds with Nicaragua since leftist Sandinist guerrillas came to power in Managua in July, 1979. It has accused Nicaragua of supplying Salvadoran guerrillas with arms to topple the U.S. - backed El Salvador Government. Managua denies the charge and insists the U.S. is supporting Nicaraguan exiles based in Honduras to invade Nicaragua.

Mr Sepulveda told reporters Mexico was worried at the volume of arms in the Central American region which he described as unjustified for internal defenssive purposes. He appealed to all concerned to cease the arms race in the region because it would only generate more conflict.

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH SEPULVEDA

PA112028 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda Amor and Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi have advocated a peaceful solution to the Central American political crisis. The Algerian foreign minister met with Sepulveda in Mexico City, where he arrived from Cuba. They also analyzed the critical economic situation in the underdeveloped countries and stressed that this and other topics will be analyzed at the seventh summit meeting of the Nonaligned Movement, to be held next month in New Delhi, India.

Communique Issued 11 Feb

FL110035 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor and Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, foreign minister of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, expressed here today their concern over the world economic and financial crisis. They agreed that a political negotiation of conflicts is the only solution to the Central American problem.

A press communique of the Foreign Secretariat reports that the two officials held a round of talks today in this capital during which they discussed international policy and the economy. It was noted that the depreciation of raw materials, high interest rates and the protectionist measures implemented by various industrialized countries are some of the problems confronting the Third World.

The two officials voiced their concern over the grave obstacles blocking the reopening of global negotiations on cooperation and development of the United Nations Organization, known as the north-south dialogue. They said there is a connection between the nonaligned conference and the June meeting of the UN Conference on Trade and Development -- UNCTAD -- in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Finally, they agreed there is a need for a further examination of cooperation possibilities between the two countries, Mexico and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, on matters related to the oil industry's technology.

SOVIET ENVOY MEETS WITH LEGISLATIVE OFFICIAL

PA161811 Mexico City UNO MAS UNO in Spanish 12 Feb 83 p 5

[Text] The Soviet Union and Mexico have the same concept of the Central American problem and could make a joint effort in proposing a solution to this conflict, said Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Rostislav Sergeyev yesterday during a meeting with Humberto Lugo Gil, chief of political control of the Chamber of Deputies. The ambassador explained his country's efforts for peace to Lugo Gil. Sergeyev also invited the Mexican deputies to send a delegation to visit the Soviet Union. Lugo Gil was accompanied by Luis Danton Rodriguez and Victor Alfonso Maldonado, president and secretaty, respectively, of the Foreign Relations Legislative Commission, and by other officials of the Chamber of Deputies. According to the official report, the conversation dealt with the struggle for peace and the exchange of legislative experience.

LABOR LEADER ANNOUNCES WAGE HIKE DEMANDS

FL142230 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2105 GMT 14 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 14 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mario Suarez, leader of the Revolutionary Confederation of Workers, announced today that his organization would demand that the Labor Congress ask for a general wage hike of over 30 percent. He also explained that the majority of enterprises are in well enough economic condition to grant the increases, since from each peso they pay in wages they gain a profit of three pesos or more.

Elsewhere, he said the business sector ought to adopt a reasonable and solidaristic attitude with the country and therefore should work out a way for the working class to recover its purchasing power. He said it is not true that there are millions of unemployed and added that the business sector is using that argument to get the labor movement to stop its demands for more benefits. He also announced that the Labor Congress would meet in full assembly tomorrow to study the report on the state of the economy in Mexico as well as actions it will take in order to protect the interests of the working class.

Elsewhere, the Authentic Workers' Front [Frente Autenico de Trabajadores] and the National Front for Protection of Salaries [Frente Nacional Para la Defensa del Salario] have requested a 50 percent increase in the minimum wage and collective work contracts [contratos collectivo de trabajo]

AMADO ON FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING, U.S.

PA031825 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 0434 GMT 3 FEb 83

[Interview with Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado II at the Foreign Minsitry in Panam City; no date given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Dr Juan Jose Amado, the first question that we will ask today at the Panamanian Foreign Minstry has to do with Panama's feelings about the Colombian proposal for a conference of Latin American foreign ministers in Panama to discuss topics affecting the region, and whether the Panamanian Foreign Minsitry will put its stamp of approval on that proposal.

[Answer] We have talked with Colombian Foreign Minister Dr Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo as well as with our counterparts of Venezuela and Mexico and some other nations of the Central American isthmus about the possibility of holding such meetings of foreign ministers at the hemispheric level. In general terms, the idea has been well received; there is much support for it. However, it is necessary to flesh out the mechanics of the way the meetings woudl be carried out and what priority topics could be discussed at the hemispheric level. Obviously, we would attempt to bypass some of the binational crises or the problems fo two or three countries and focus our efforts, our mission at those meetings, on the continental level.

We have even discusssd the possibility of taking advangage of the attractive event of the 450th anniversary of the founding of the city of Cartagena to hold the meeting there in Colombia. All this is still at the level of ideas that merit consultation with the other foreign ministers. We are in the process of consultation.

[Question] [Words indistinct] Central America could be one of the main topics?

[Answer] The Central American region could be included on an agenda of that kind. However, there are certain topics that all the countries consider to be of great importance concerning the development of the economic, political and social activities of the American hemisphere. There are topics related to the matter of loans, of the countries' foreign debt, there are topics related to new financing to promote the countries' advancement and development. There are regional problems like the particular one of Central America, but we also have other problems that at times transcend the borders of the American Continent, such as the British intervention in the Malvinas.

We would not like to spoil the idea of the meeting at this point by restricting it to very particular, very exclusive topics. I would like to leave the concept open so that the meeting will reflect the realities of the hemisphere.

[Question] What should be the relationship between the United States and Latin America?

[Answer] The relations between the United States and Latin America tend to be cyclical. They vary up and down depending on the administrations of the countries themselves.

We would not like to speak in too general terms in discussing these relations, but rather to be more specific at the binational level, because while it is true that relations between Panama and the United States reflect a specific operation and a specific kind of behavior, it is possible that the beneficial or adverse effects of these relations may not be the same as those that apply to other nations in their relations with the United States.

However, in essence, it is important for the United States to participate in these discussions and analyses at the hemispheric level. The United States is a fact of life on the continent. It is the country which has the resources with which to help, and it is also the country that has the mechanisms to allow this inertia to continue without the stimulus and the encouragement that the organization always needs. [sentence as heard]

[Question] In Colombia there is great concern that the Central American problem could endanger the Panama Canal treaties or in some way be an obstacle to the implementation of the treaties.

[Answer] We visualize and handle the problem of the treaties as if it were no longer exclusively a Panamanian problem. It is a topic that has become an American cause, and one that also received full support from the entire international community. Within this frame of reference, we have always felt that the position of the United States should be, and we believe it will be, to remain within the parameters established in the treaties. However, we are not entirely unconcerned over the fact that the war tension and violence in Central America might escalate to the point where the United States -- acting in the protective role that it assumed in the treaties, where the Pentagon's umbrella became part of the operational defense mechanism of the interoceanic waterway -- might decide to reinforce the defenses that are located in the canal area to try to keep the violence from reaching this area and endangering the operation of the interoceanic waterway. Naturally, this involves a number of repercussions that worry us.

We have discussed this with friendly countries. We have also discussed it with the United States in an effort to seek new mechanisms and new formulas to reach a peaceful, negotiated solution to the Central American conflicts.

[Question] (?For example?)

[Answer] Well, the present cases, such as the case of the border difficulties between Nicaragua and Honduras. Some problems have recently cropped up between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The discussion (?would include) the topic of the budget, which has always (?been of concern) on the Central American isthmus.

[Question] When we spoke of Latin America, you said rightly that the United States should participate [words indistinct] it would be interesting to remove (?the United States) as well as Canada, to have two spokesmen of the Franco-Anglo Saxon [words indistinct].

[Answer] There is something very improtant that we should always define in analyzing international organizations and participation in them, and that is what we are seeking from an Organization of American States. In principle, as everyone well knows, (?it should be) an organization that truly represents the hemisphere, all the countries in the hemisphere, because their presence, influence or behavior either helps or hurts the nations on the American Continent.

If this is so, and we believe it is, it is important for all the countries in the hemisphere to participate. If I remember rightly, one of the basic tenets of an organization like the OAS was to refrain from discussing considerations that were political or ideological in nature or that fell within the administration of a nation.

If I remember rightly, this was not done, nor was it the purpose of the organization. The purpose has always been that peoples should unite their efforts in order to work jointly for their development. In view of that concept, we believe that all countries should participate. Of course, for all the countries to participate, there must be a desire on the countries' part to do so. I do not know whether or not Cuba [words indistinct] wants to participate, but we do believe that it is important for participation to be total.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Well, the isolation can also be the result of decisions made by the countries themselves. I repeat that I do not know whether the Cuban Government is interested at this time in participating in the OAS, but the Panamanian conduct and analysis are always directed toward integration and total participation.

[Question] On the topic of Colombia's rights in the Panama Canal Zone [words indistinct]?

[Answer] There was a decree issued during all the talks that were held in the process of negotiating the treaties with the United States, and the pact that has been identified as the Monteria Agreement is sufficiently explicit on the subject to set a basis for good relations between Panama and Colombia as far as the canal is concerned.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Lopez Portillo and the presidents of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama (?identified) serious problems, including one that might possibly be very important: the difficulties being faced on the Central American isthmus, [words indistinct] are practically a hemispheric concern. It is not the exclusive concern of the countries involved and of the powers that are seeking influence in those countries. Panama could never evade its responsibility to rationally, sensibly and effectively attend to Central American issues, because Panama is a part of Central America and a part of America.

In line with this policy of action, it has a clear Americanist responsibility to contribute basic solutions as much as it can and to see that the solutions over the short term, and in a permanent manner [words indistinct] the Central American isthmus. This was the feeling of the Contadora meeting.

[Question] [Words indistinct] the topic of the Malvinas is somewhat worrisome [words indistinct]. Has it interfered with the relations between Latin America and the United States?

[Answer] Definitely. I believe that the position of the American countries was very clear. It was not just concern over the intervention of an extracontinental power, but also [words indistinct] the elimination of the colonialist concept from our America, and not just here, but from the entire world. The condemnation of the United Kingdom because of its behavior toward Argentina in the case of the Malvinas (?reflected) the desire to have a free continent, one that is free from the actions of powers, free from interference in internal affairs and also free in the sense of the concept of sovereignty.

COSTA RICA

REASONS FOR CANCELING MONGE TRIP CLARIFIED

PA161720 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge will not go to Mexico next week because of previous engagements and due to the pope's upcoming visit. President Monge was invited by Fidel Velasquez, president of the confederation of Mexican Workers, CTM. The Costa Rican president was to attend the CTM Council meeting.

Monge is a CTM secretary-for-life, a post he obtained in February 1958, after serving as secretary general to the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers, ORIT.

During his visit to Mexico, President Monge would have received CTM's recognition as the first labor leader to have become president of a Latin American country. He would have also received the CTM's endorsement to his efforts on behalf of democracy, social justice and peace in Central America. However, it was learned that some CTM sectors were opposed to endorsing Monge's policies. This might have contributed to Monge's decision to postpone his trip.

Presidential spokesman Armando Vargas explained that another reason for canceling the trip was that Queen Elizabeth II will be in Mexico at the same time. Every government has engagements to fulfill and in Costa Rica we are awaiting the pope's visit. Queen Elizabeth II will keep Mexican Government officials busy, Vargas pointed out. In view of this, President Monge, who attaches great significance to the CTM invitation, told Velasquez that it was best to postpone his visit.

According to Vargas, President Monge has expressed great interest in intensifying the friendly relations with the Mexican Government. Vargas also confirmed that the decision to postpone the trip to Mexico has absolutely nothing to do with Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez' recent visit to Mexico, as some local and international news media have implied.

Vargas did not say when President Monge would go to Mexico, even if the CTM invitation still stands.

MINISTER REPORTS 'DISCREDIT' CAMPAIGN IN SWEDEN

PA160414 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 5 Feb 83 p 10A

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez yesterday reported that a campaign to discredit Costa Rica is currently underway in Stockholm, Sweden. He added that pictures of Jose Carmelo Sbezzi are being circulated in the streets of that city. Sbezzi is under arrest in Costa Rica, accused by the Judicial Investigation Organization (OIJ) of heading a terrorist group. The campaign consists of announcing that there are political prisoners in Costa Rica and that they are tortured in prison.

Sbezzi was arrested on 11 March 1982 while in possession of arms for the Salvadoran guerrillas. He is now being tried for committing the international crimes of terrorism, possession of explosives and use of forged documents. His case was brought to trial by the Fourth Prosecuting Court, but no date has been set yet for the trial.

Concerning the campaign in Sweden, Volio Jimenez said that it is yet another move by the extremist groups who want to discredit our country and its government, but that he will do all in his power at the international organizations to demonstrate that these are slanderous assertions.

GOVERNMENT APPROVES INTERNAL SECURITY PLAN

PA161616 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] All police and security corps have received instructions to coordinate their actions according to the internal security plan which was recently approved by the government, Vice President Armando Arauz Aguilar said. He also explained that the plan is aimed at guaranteeing the country's and the citizens' security and not at militarizing the security corps. We want the citizens to feel secure, so that the economic and social reorganizations programs can be carried out without problems.

A committee in charge of coordinating the National Security Council was appointed by the government. The committee will coordinate the actions of the police and security corps. A communications system and a general operational security plan has been established to complement the internal security plan.

The deputy ministers of public security and of interior, the civil and rural guard commanders, the directors of the National Security Agency and the Judicial Investigation Organization, OIJ, are the members of the committee in charge of coordinating the internal security plan.

The government is also considering the purchase of some 200 patrol cars, motorcycles and other vehicles for the internal security plan, in order to give adequate police patrol coverage to all cities and to protect citizens and property.

Vice President Arauz Aguilar said that operations to control the activities of terrorist groups, the guerrilla camps and other groups engaged in activities to disrupt the country's internal order, will continue. In this respect, the government has decided to give special attention to everything that concerns the country's internal security, using all material and human resources available, Arauz Aguilar said.

EL SALVADOR

NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION ON POPE VISIT AMNESTY

PA161647 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Feb 83 pp 2, 33

[Excerpts] There has been no confrontation from the Foreign Ministry concerning the report released by international news agencies that amnesty will be granted to political prisoners in El Salvador on the occasion of the arrival of Pope John Paul II.

When asked about this, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena has said during a press conference that a decision of this nature is not the province of the Government-Church Mixed Commission but of the Political Commission and the Salvadoran Government.

"The commission over which I preside," said Chavez Mena in reference to Government-Church Mixed Commission, "is only in charge of preparing the pope's welcome and his stay in our country."

Yesterday, international news agencies reported that the Catholic Church has applauded the government's decision to study the possibility of releasing political prisoners as a gesture of good will due to the visit of Pope John Paul II.

COURT REPORTS ON CASUALTIES IN SUCHITOTO

PA161242 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 15 Feb 83 p 2

[Excerpts] A 2d lieutenant, a sergeant, three corporals, two soldiers and three guards died during the military operations carried out this past weekend in the Suchitoto area, according to a court report.

Another casualty listed by the court report is Arnulfo Padilla Molina, a former Suchitoto mayor, who was shot. Another 26 bodies were listed at the court during Saturday, Sunday and Monday. These casualties were civilians who had either been shot or beaten or had died in car accidents. This makes it a total of 36 registered bodies.

GUERRILLAS REPORTEDLY RECRUITING YOUTHS

PA161739 San Salvador DIARIO EL MUNDO in Spanish 14 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] Parents of young people who live in San Salvador neighborhoods have denounced at the armed forces and security corps offices the presence of people carrying backpacks and wearing blue jeans who are intercepting youths of both sexes and offering them good money to join clandestine organizations.

Some of the reports point out that the "recruiters" generally work in pairs throughout the capital's neighborhoods and urban areas. They seek out 12- and 14-year-old youths and try to make them join the clandestine groups. Pairs of these people, carrying backpacks and appearing to be from those communities, were seen in San Joaquin Oriente and San Joaquin Poniente. They were seen trying to convince both young girls and boys, telling them they were old enough to earn "some good money."

The youths' parents said these people told their children that, in order to earn this good money, they would have to be taken to camps in San Vicente. In some cases, according to the reports, the "recruiters" told the youths they would be taken to a camp identified as El Oregano, where they would be given money and training.

It was also reported that some of these people were bold enough to follow their would-be draft victims to their homes, then wait until they came out again and continue trying to convince them.

These people have also threatened the youths when they refuse to join the clandestine organizations. They tell the youths that if they denounced them to their relatives or the military forces, they will be sought out and shot.

COUNCIL MEMBER EXPLAINS COMMENT ON 1984 ELECTION

PA162240 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 15 Feb 83 pp 7, 17

[Commentary by Central Electoral Council President Dr Rafael Hasbun: "About Ulterior Motives and Making a Stitch in Time"]

[Text] The Spanish language, which is over 1,000 year old, includes two expressions that have recently been used against me: "To make a stitch in time" means to take precautions, while to watch for the "hidden cat" means that there are ulterior or secret causes or motives.

Immediately after the visit by Dr Jeane Kirkpatrick, the very honorable U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, to the offices of the Central Electoral Council [CCE], and in view of the concern generated by the approach of the elections that have been tentatively scheduled for March 1984, I said that there are two options:

One possibility is to hold the presidential elections in March 1984, with the certainty of having a reliable and trustworthy electoral registry. Another option is to advance the elections, with a registry that may be somewhat deficient but sufficiently representative to be used for a referendum; for example, a referendum on whether to accept or reject the new constitution that is currently being drafted by the Constituent Assembly.

After seeing myself on television, I must admit that my comments -- made in a small office crowded with reporters, photographers, tripods, reflectors, and in the context of strict protocol with time restrictions -- were unfortunate and not sufficiently clear. I gave a kind of general outline of the concern expressed by some Constituent Assembly deputies regarding the possibility that the temporary provisions included in the new constitution might call for the new magna charta to go into effect on a particular date after approval by plebiscite or referendum.

Whether or not we like the idea of a referendum, the fact is that it is not up to the Central Electoral Council to promote or reject it. If it is a constitutional mandate, we simply have to obey and make the preparations for elections which, like any other kind of elections, require an electoral register, ballots, ballot boxes, publicity, deadlines and all the mechanisms with which the people are familiar.

The concern that I expressed briefly first led journalist Francisco Romero Cerna to turn to an anonymous other voice to call for us to "make stitch in time," and later, Bollani, that excellent caricaturist from Santa Ana, magnified my physical ugliness and placed me face to face with the "hidden cat" of his critical cartoon. In addition, he sharpened the point of his stiletto brush by placing the term "referendum" on a card coming out of my magician's cape.

There are no ulterior motives, stitches to be taken or wide magician's cape in my statements, which had the defect of being too brief, but which I will gladly expand. If the preceding paragraph is read by Marchesini, who is in charge of composing at EL DIARIO DE HOY, I can almost see him strike the desk three times and exclaim: You, sir, can write anything you like, but first ask for permission and be brief, because every issue of EL DIARIO DE HOY is just like the CCE office; small and crowded.

That is what I am doing now. I am asking permission to write further on the subject.

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS IDEA FOR PEACE FORCE

PA161935 San Salvador EL SALVADOR NEWS GAZETTE in English 14-20 Feb 83 p 4

[Editorial: "A United Nations Peace force for El Salvador?"]

[Excerpts] The United States neither wants to intervene militarily in El Salvador nor to merely walk away from the unhappy situation and allow the nation to eventually fall into the control of the Soviet bloc. It is promoting a peace commission to bring about a national reconciliation.

There is a definite impasse. The guerrilla tactics are to attack and destroy, not to conquer. Both sides in the conflict, either tacitly or openly, admit their inability to defeat the other militarily within a reasonable time.

While it may be a paradox to cite a subversive source on this, we think that it is worth mentioning. Last week Radio Sandino quoted guerrilla leader Misael Gallardo as saying that the U.S. Government is suggesting a peace force to intervene in El Salvador. He bases his contention on testimonies to Congress by Gen Wallace Nutting, commander of the U.S. Southern Command based in Panama, that a political solution is not possible in El Salvador if order is not first achieved. That, together with the tour of Central America of the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, leads him to believe that the possibility of a U.N. peace force for El Salvador is being considered.

We understand a peace force to be not involved in warfare but to be continued under a mutual agreement by both parts.

Whatever the solution may be, Gallardo says it is a political-military formula intended to cover up the defeat of the Salvadoran Government through increased intervention. We believe that the people of El Salvador would welcome any move to bring peace to this country, short of negotiating on equal terms with the guerrillas and short of surrendering to the leftist subversives.

Such a peace force could bring a cease-fire and a halt to the destruction of the economic infrastructure of the country that took many generations to build.

It could guarantee a safety and security of all Salvadorans on both sides of the conflict.

It could establish a climate of peace in which free elections could be held with the participation of all Salvadoran, including the leftists.

There are many obstacles to search the solution. It might not be acceptable either to the armed forces or to the guerrillas. It could be rejected by many Salvadorans as tantamount to accepting negotiations with the guerrillas, which they have violently rejected. The strong nonaligned bloc in the United Nations, the Soviet veto in the Security Council, headed by Cuba, might not allow such a solution.

However, should it come to be suggested, the Soviet bloc -- if it really wants peace, as it so loudly proclaims -- could not oppose it without confessing its designs for Central America.

For our part, we are in favor of anything that will bring peace to El Salvador, that will stop the killing, that will end the destruction; but only if it will assure the nation a future under a representative democracy that expresses the will of the majority.

If an UN peace force could achieve this for El Salvador, then it has our support. It could be an alternative to negotiations with the guerrillas, which would be universally repudiated but which many Salvadorans suspect are now being secretly pursued.

GUATEMALA

PRENSA LIBRE VIEWS U.S. FACT-FINDING DELEGATION

PA162316 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 16 Feb 83 p 4

[Text] Four U.S. Democratic congressmen were expected to arrive last night in Guatemala to learn about the changes that the current government is making here, according to official reports.

One of the visitors is Congressman Clarence D. Long of Maryland, chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. Also arriving will be Matthew F. McHugh, Democrat from New York, and Representative Julian C. Dixon from California, both of whom belong to the aforementioned subcommittee, the U.S. Embassy reported. Traveling with them is Marvyn Dymally, from California, member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Long, a Guatemala Opponent

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola recently reported during a news conference that Congressman Clarence D. Long is one of the representatives who have always strongly opposed the granting of any assistance to our country on the grounds that human rights are violated here.

By coincidence, Castillo said, Long visited Guatemala on two occasions during the previous regime and for that reason developed a negative view of the incumbent government.

However, Castillo added, this time Congressman Long will be able to learn about the positive changes that have taken place since General Rios Montt assumed power. He will be able to see the other side of the coin. He will be able to meet with leaders of Indian communities, peasants and anyone else he wishes to see, who will undoubtedly tell him about the new policies in Guatemala.

We are confident that after their visit Congressman Long and his companions will change their views about Guatemala.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Embassy has reported that the congressmen will meet with government officials and other Guatemalan leaders during their stay in our country. They are making their brief visit as part of a fact-finding tour through several Central American countries.

OFFICIAL REJECTS REPORTED U.S. REFORM PLANS

PA160445 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Jorge Serrano, president of the State Council, has vigorously rejected the attitude of certain sectors in the United States who seek to introduce into Guatemala a stereotyped form of agrarian reform that has been formulated by people who are unaware of the country's realities.

Serrano said he hopes that the draft will be presented to the State Council so that it will be possible to show how unrealistic and ill-advised the U.S. plans for Guatemala are.

AID ACCUSED OF FINANCING MARXISM IN NICARAGUA

PA161703 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] In a paid advertisement which the Guatemalan Foundation for Freedom published today in the morning paper PRENSA LIBRE, reference is made to U.S. aid that is channeled through its agency known as AID [Agency for International Development]. The last part of the article says: An investigation by the Heritage Foundation has revealed, incredibly, that the U.S. Government is helping to pay for Marxist indoctrination courses in Nicaragua. The Wisconsin Land Holding Center has received donations of $1.3 million and $2.8 million in the past 4 years from AID and the State Department. Almost without exception, it is to this group that the State Department turns to receive information about agrarian reform in the developing countries. Some 80 percent of the center's funds come from federal taxpayers.

In 1980 the center proposed, and AID approved, a director for its agrarian reform projects in Nicaragua: Jesuit (Teddy Marcheti), 35, who said in his dissertation that capitalism will not cease to exist or even begin to deteriorate until the working class replaces the bourgeoisie and any of its substitutes as the dominant force in society.

According to (Stevie Dagman), the Heritage analyst, (Marcheti) is known for his work in Chile during the Allende period, where he associated with what he admitted were rather unusual research groups. Research was confused with activism, but the social scientists did their research work while participating with other party members in political tasks.

According to statements by (Marcheti), the chief of the group of activists was involved in armed kidnappings.

Installed in Nicaragua with a salary of $43,000 coming from Washington, the IAD fellow reported that he began to preach in Managua, attacking U.S. policy in El Salvador. He participated in anti-U.S. chants and songs, in Sandinist meetings and so forth.

In July 1982, the U.S. Government had already spent $900,000 in support of (Marcheti), including seminars and other products [as heard] in support of the Sandinist government.

When AID suggested that the center send another person to Managua to moderate (Marcheti's) strident tone, the center appointed a student who had been punished by the Latin American Studies Association, LASA, for having shouted down a member of the State Department at the LASA annual meeting in 1981. Meanwhile, the center had invited eight members of the Sandinist group to Madison, Wisconsin, to seminars on classical works on peasant economy: Kautsky, Lenin and (Sayonov).

At present, AID has assigned a group of academicians, who are highly supportive of the center and its viewpoints, to review the center's financing. After this move has been slightly covered up, the allocations will be renewed.

HONDURAS

SANDINIST 'SPY NETWORK' REPORTEDLY DISMANTLED

PA161859 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Government sources today reported that Honduran investigation agents discovered a well-organized network of alleged Sandinist spies. As a result of this discovery, four Nicaraguans have been arrested; they are in police custody. The alleged spies will be presented to the media in the next few days.

The sources that confirmed the dismantling of the spy network would not give further details on the spies, but promised a complete report at a news conference.

GOVERNMENT APPOINTS NEW AMBASSADOR TO NICARAGUA

PA160456 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Feb 83 p 18

[Excerpts] The new Honduran ambassador to Managua, Hector Alfonso Pineda Lopez, will travel to the Nicaraguan capital today to assume his post. The diplomat, 77, yesterday promised to help "smooth things over and bring our two peoples closer together."

He said that Central America "has neuralgic spots, but my mission is in Nicaragua, where I will center all my efforts to bring our peoples closer together." Dr Pineda Lopez replaces Roberto Martinez Ordonez, who has been transferred to the United Nations organization as ambassador.

The Honduran representative to the Sandinist government, who defines himself as a progressive liberal, refused to comment on Nicaragua's domestic situation.

NICARAGUA

EDITORIAL SEES U.S. 'THREAT' AFTER 'BIG PINE'

PA132236 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 Feb 83 p 3

[Editorial: "'Big Pine' ends, the Threat Remains" -- capitalized passages denote boldface as published]

[Text] Yesterday, the Honduran military men involved in the U.S. political maneuvers -- of which the military maneuvers are a mere part -- began what they have termed an EVALUATION of the complex and threatening "Big Pine" maneuvers that conclude today. We are sure -- as is everyone else -- that success in frightening us will not be included in the positive side of their evaluation.

Nonetheless, whatever conclusions the interested parties may reach from their maneuvers, these conclusions won't lead them to forsake the strategic objective of attacking our country. Such maneuvers that imperialism has conceived for the military structure and the political plans it has outlined for Honduras will retain the same objectives as their overall Central American policy; preventing the process of liberation and self-determination, while trying to eliminate the Nicaraguan experience under the pretext that its popular revolution is the main cause of regional instability.

The Honduran sepoy who heads his country's army warned us of these wild plans yesterday when he said "IF THESE MANEUVERS (the "Big Pine" maneuvers) ARE A CHALLENGE TO ANYONE, THEY MUST BE FOR THE UNITED STATES, BECAUSE IT IS THE COUNTRY COMMITTED TO DEFENDING THE AMERICAS AND TO SUPPORTING ITS DEMOCRATIC NEIGHBORS THREATENED BY COMMUNIST AND TOTALITARIAN REGIMES."

Never mind that a few minutes earlier the Honduran president had recited his pet phrase that Honduras will not invade Nicaragua, since [Armed Forces chief] General Alvarez is not one to go by what "his" president says, as he owes his anointment as "strong man" to another power and to other interests. Furthermore, Alvarez Martinez lacks the imagination and the subtlety to disguise the mission entrusted to him. With his statement -- not so long that he would get lost in the "message" -- Alvarez Martinez disclosed the key elements of a gross maneuver; the United States, "savior" of "democracy" in the face of a "communist" threat. Simple, simple enough not to confuse anyone... not even the general of a banana republic.

Luckily for Central America, the rest of the world is more intelligent. Everyone is aware of the fact that such rudimentary arguments seek a license for more direct U.S. aggression against peoples -- Nicaraguans and Salvadorans, for instance -- who shook off in the past and are trying to shake off at present the imperialist tutelage that created the conditions of backwardness and subjection under which the entire region has suffered for centuries. The world's democratic and progressive countries -- some of them convinced by their people's opinions and others convinced on their own -- clearly see in the tenacious Yankee effort to make us appear as the carriers of Central America's destabilization, their ill-disguised interest in curbing, through the use of brute force, solutions that derive from the profound roots of our national needs.

The use of force to impose solutions that are contrary to our national interests, our self-determination and the sovereign will of our Central American peoples is, for the rest of America and the world -- or at least for the sensible majority of them -- the biggest threat to peace in this and other areas.

One can't become confused, least of all when there is no longer even sufficient intelligence to weave arguments that might help conceal the intentions of the imperialists and their well-trained but ill-instructed puppets.

FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON UN, ISRAEL

PA160450 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Communique issued by the Foreign Ministry Information and Press Directorate; no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Tomorrow Nicaragua will participate for the first time in a meeting of the UN Security Council. It will be represented by Deputy Foreign Ministry Victor Hugo Tinoco. The meeting, which has been urgently called at the request of the Syrian Arab Republic, will discuss the status of the occupied Arab territories and most particularly the Israeli policy of promoting colonization in those areas.

The Nonaligned Movement, Nicaragua and the vast majority of nations feel that the most pressing problem in the Middle East is that of the Palestinians, because there will be no peace in the region as long as they cannot exercise their right to self-determination.

Another basic obstacle to the position of the member countries of the Security Council is the expansionist and aggressive policy of Israel, which sends Zionist zealots to colonize the occupied areas in order to make it difficult to return these lands to their legitimate owners. Due to the violations of international law and the principles of the charter by Israel in Lebanon, there is a possibility that a new war will break out.

The Security Council, supreme UN body in charge of watching over world peace and security, focuses special attention on the situation in the Middle East because it is a critical area of the world. In addition, the nonaligned countries regard Israel's position as null and void. Furthermore, Israel has been condemned because it has refused to vacate the occupied Arab territories due to the support it gets from the U.S. policy of covering up all of its violations at the Security Council the measures which have been adopted against Israel [sentence as heard]. This strategic alliance between Israel and the United States confirms that Israel is a true beachhead of imperialism in the Middle East.

For its part, Syria explained at the Security Council that the United States plans to grant Israel assistance in the amount of $4 million [as heard] and asked for sanctions against Israel, as well as Israel's expulsion from that body. The request for Israel's expulsion was based on the by-laws of the charter, which say that member countries must love peace. Israel is exactly the opposite, because it is warlike. The case will be discussed at the seventh summit in view of Israel's negative attitude.

FRENCH ENVOY ON SUPPORT FOR AREA PEACE TALKS

PA161440 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Feb 83

[(Luis Cabrera) report from the French Embassy on news conference held by Antoine Blanca, French roving ambassador to Latin America on 15 February in Managua -- recorded]

[Text] Antoine Blanca, French roving ambassador to Latin America, today underscored France's solidarity with Nicaragua. He also noted that France's attitude has been so solidaristic that on 14 July Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra watched, together with the French president, the parade marking France's independence.

He explained that the French Government is making a great effort and is prepared to continue such an effort to help Nicaragua in every way. He also stressed France's respect for Nicaragua's sovereignty and self-determination. We are not the ones to tell Nicaragua what it should do or when it should hold elections. Nicaragua has said that it will hold elections. It has said when they will be held and we believe what Nicaragua has said.

While referring to the various peace initiatives for Central America, Antoine Blanca, the French roving ambassador to Latin America, referred to the meeting on Contadora Island:

[Begin Blanca recording] Particular reference has been made to the statement of the four foreign ministers on Contadora. This allows me to make the following clarification: France was very sympathetic to the Contadora declaration.

I repeat: We think that it is urgently necessary to hold peace talks in order to find (?a moderate) solution in El Salvador. However, France, as a country which is interested in the region but outside it, will not take intiatives of its own or by itself. Rather, we prefer that the initiatives be put forth by countries in the region. In that case, we are prepared to consider very favorably any peace proposal which looks timely; we are also prepared to support any such proposal.

You ask me who will win the war in El Salvador, if it continues. We do not want to think of such an eventuality. Eighty thousand people have already died in El Salvador. [words indistinct] that country has suffered very much. A president at the service of the Salvadoran oligarchy ordered 20,000 peasants murdered in 1932. That country has suffered a lot. We do not want El Salvador to suffer any further. I repeat: We think that it is truly urgent to find a negotiated solution.

The only thing I can add is that I truly think that nobody, absolutely nobody, and for various reasons, can profit from a prolongation of this situation. [end Blanca recording]

This was an excerpt of the statement Blanca made today during a news conference. Afterward, the French roving ambassador met with Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

Tomorrow, Blanca will leave for Honduras and will later wind up his tour in Mexico.

DEMOCRATIC COORDINATING BOARD FAVORS DIALOGUE

PA151855 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] In a statement for the press yesterday, the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board expressed its opposition to an foreign attack on Nicaragua, as well as to any attempt to implement an antidemocratic regime in Nicaragua or to reestablish old structures, which are also unjust.

We have maintained that dialogue, with the necessary guarantees, is the best way to deal with conflicts, and is the only way to ensure a political, popular and democratic solution, the dissidents' statement points out.

The document adds that during a visit to three Latin American countries, a delegation of the Democratic Coordinating Board made a special request for technical cooperation in connection with elections in Nicaragua.

During the tour, the delegation also emphasized the Nicaraguan Government's efforts to find a solution to the conflict through dialogue. The delegation said that this kind of solution is still possible, despite the growing military polarization and the continued shrinking of the political opening.

CONAPRO SECRETARY PRAISES LATIN AMERICAN TOUR

PA161808 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Feb 83 pp 1, 14

[Text] Erick Ramirez Benavente [Executive secretary of the Confederation of Nicaraguan Progessional Associations, Conapro] has said that the visit to four countries by the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board can be considered a triumph of Latin American democracy.

In addition, he told LA PRENSA that this return to the country was due to the many previously scheduled commitments which he had to fulfill in Nicaragua.

The rest of the delegation is scheduled to arrive in Managua next Friday afternoon and will give a news conference the following day.

Erick Ramirez said that the members of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board extended their stay from 10 days to 3 weeks due to many interviews, lectures, talks and conferences given in all the countries they visited.

In other words, all the objectives of this Nicaraguan democratic organization were thoroughly fulfilled because the delegates met with church, civic, business and social organizations and chiefs of state.

It was clear that every country showed great interest in knowing the current Nicaraguan democratic situation and this was the reason for the unscheduled interviews.

This Nicaraguan democratic organization expressed interest in achieving a peaceful, democratic and pluralist atmosphere within the revolutionary process our country is experiencing.

FINNISH PARLIAMENT COMMISSION TO ARRIVE 16 FEB

PA170005 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] A top-level Finnish Parliament commission, presided over by (Kero M. Ulsianen), deputy for the People's Democratic Alliance [as heard], will arrive in Nicaragua this afternoon at the State Council's invitation.

The Finnish parliamentary members, with whom we have close friendly and fraternal will remain in Nicaragua for 5 days. They will meet with their Nicaraguan counterparts and members of the government junta. They will also speak with members of the workers' unions and private sector. The group will also visit the northern border and tourist resort areas, which will allow them to have a general idea of our national reality.

The group of visitors will include representatives of the Finnish Social Democratic Party, Conservative Party [as heard], Center Party, Finnish Parliament officials and a union leader. It will also include an outstanding figure; union lawyer (Tara Halonen), who is an active member of the Finland-Nicaraguan Friendship Society and president of the (Tas Valki) fundraising organization for the Salvadoran, Nicaraguan and Namibian people.

ARDE OFFICIALS CONTINUE TOUR FOR PEACE

PA160129 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Commander Eden Pastora Gomez, Brooklyn Rivera and Dr Alvaro Jerez, members of the Revolutionary Directorate of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde, last Friday continued their peace tour on behalf of Nicaragua and Central America. Among the formal views that they will present to the Caribbean, U.S. and European governments, the Arde leaders will stress our country's need to return to the original government program, betrayed and sidestepped by the nine oligarchs who have also betrayed the Nicaraguan people's aspirations.

Commander Pastora Gomez, leader of the Sandino Revolutionary Front and member of the Arde Revolutionary Directorate, has held news conferences before many newsmen in Lima, Peru, and Bogota, Colombia, where he stressed the need for the Reagan administration to understand the importance of returning to the original government program, and the danger posted by the presence in the northern part of the country of armed groups identified with the Somozist past.

In his assertions, Commander Pastora made it very clear that national dignity and nationalism are currently struggling for a two-way anti-imperialism that will attack and reject any hegemonic presence, whether from the Soviet Union or the United States.

Commander Pastora said that his struggle for the democratic recovery of the revolution is a challenge to the Stalinist totalitarianism of the nine, who are enthroning a brutal repression that is concealed through the suppression of all freedoms, particularly freedom of the press, radio and television. Commander Pastora explained that revolutionary and democratic leaders like Alfonso Robelo and Brooklyn Rivera comprise with him an alliance that is willing to fight for political solutions, while leaving war in the hands of the so-called National Directorate.

Dr Jerez, executive secretary of the Arde Revolutionary Directorate, is another member of the peaceful delegation that last Friday resumed its peaceful tour through Europe, the United States and the Caribbean. The previous visits by the Arde delegations were received with much interest by the democratic leaders of the visited countries.

VOICE OF SANDINO ON U.S. HISTORIC RESPONSIBILITY

PA160423 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Station commentary: "The Reagan Administration's Position on the Nicaraguan Conflict"]

[Text] It is publicly known worldwide that the Reagan administration economically, politically and militarily supports the armed groups that formerly belonged to the now-defunct National Guard. These groups are currently active in northern Nicaragua, not trying to rescue the Nicaraguan revolution, but to bring back the situations that dictator Somoza encouraged, but which our people can neither accept nor tolerate any longer.

As in past, the U.S. Government is playing a basic role in our country's history. It is high time the current U.S. Government understood its historic responsibility, thus vindicating itself before our people by assuming positions that would benefit the entire Nicaragua people rather than backward and outdated positions that might benefit some specific group.

Neither is it any secret, not even for the former national guardsmen, that the Nicaraguan people would never accept the return of a dictatorial system like Somoza's, just as they currently reject the communist dictatorship that has stolen our democratic revolution.

The basic cause of the democratic Nicaraguan people's struggle is the establishment of a fully and democratic system, where there would be no room for dictatorships, privileged sectors or foreign impositions, regardless of their origin.

Under the present circumstances, the Nicaraguan people need the understanding and solidarity of all free peoples in the world. The best sign of understanding and solidarity that they can receive is precisely that expressed for their struggle and earnest desire for democracy, through which they seek to establish and consolidate a system full of guarantees and rights. This system will not only guarantee permanent and lasting peace but will also place itself at the service of peace in Central America.

This is the current struggle of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance. We have the obligation to promote this struggle because we want to prevent the unnecessary shedding or more Nicaraguan blood.

The horrors of war become familiar only when they have been experienced in the flesh. If we want to be truly humane and just with the Nicaraguan people, we must act in accordance with their desires and hopes. We must understand the people and give them what they really want. We should never try to promote solutions that have already been rejected or are harmful.

We want our history to stop being a history of impositions. We want it to be a history of election in every sense of the word. Only in this manner will we be moving toward peace among Nicaraguans and avoiding further suffering for our people.

BRIEFS

RIGHTS COMMISSION MEMBERS -- The Nicaraguan Government has elected the following individuals members of the National Commission To Promote and Protect Human Rights: Leonte Herdocia, ratified as president and national commissioner; Father Amado Lopez, dean of the Central American University; Miguel Angel Aviles, member of the National Council for Higher Education; Ramiro Lacayo Montealegre; Zulema Baltodano; Cesar Amador Kuhl, president of the medical society; Gonzalo Ramirez Morales; Sixto Ulloa, director general of the Evangelical Committee for Aid to Development; Agustin Fuentes, journalist; and Sandoval Herrera, Miskito priest. [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Jan p 5 PA]

CUBAN TEACHERS ARRIVE -- A total of 190 of the 2,000 Cuban teachers who are scheduled to arrive in Nicaragua for educational work, particularly in remote rural areas, arrived yesterday. They are members of the "Augusto Cesar Sandino" teaching contingent. The contingent first arrived in Nicaragua in late 1979 and since then has lost 14 members, of whom 4 were assassinated by counterrevolutionary bands. [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 3 Feb 83 p 8 PA]

AMBASSADORS TO YUGOSLAVIA, COLOMBIA -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has reported that Emilio Moreno, Nicaraguan ambassador to the GDR, will also act as Nicaraguan ambassador to Yugoslavia. Moreno will maintain his office in Berlin. In addition, Francisco Quinonez will take over the embassy in Colombia, replacing Ambassador Rodolfo Abaunza Salinas, who will return to Nicaragua. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Feb 83 PA]

BATTALION RETURNS FROM BORDER -- Granada -- Reserve battalion 19-31 has returned to Granada after spending 2 months on combat mission at the southern border. It was gladly received by some 2,000 Granada inhabitants. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Feb 83 PA]

NEW CONIPAZ PRESIDENT -- Managua, Feb (ANN) -- By request of the ten honorary presidents of the Nicaraguan Peace Committee, Conipaz, Commander Olga Aviles Lopez assumed the presidency of that organization on 8 February. The official announcement of the appointment was made by Commander Doris Tigerino, former Conipaz president, who now holds a post in the Interior Ministry. [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Feb 83 p 12 PA]

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has announced the following appointments: Oscar Cortes Cordero has been appointed ambassador to Ecuador. Rafael Corea Bravo has been appointed minister counselor to the Nicaraguan Embassy in the Netherlands. Emilio Caldera Mendoza has been appointed minister counselor of the Nicaraguan Embassy in El Salvador. Miriam Jerez Diaz has been appointed first secretary in charge of consular affairs at the Nicaraguan Embassy in Ecuador. Alvaro Murillo Parrales has been appointed economic attache to the Nicaraguan Embassy in Cuba. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2007 GMT 2 Feb 83 PA]

STATION VIEWS OUTCOME OF SAN JOSE MEETING

FL162345 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] San Jose -- the meeting of foreign ministers from three Central American countries held in the Costa Rican capital has closed with a statement which demonstrated the loss of influence by the alliance policy pushed by the U.S. Government.

That conclusion can be reached, according to observers, by the fact that the foreign ministers of El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica accepted the deactivation of the so-called Pro-Peace and Democracy Forum, created 4 months ago at the initiative of the United States.

During its short existence, that forum, which had been approved by the governments of those countries in the region, was only able to fulfill the role as a point of reference for the Salvadoran regime with the backing of the United States, Costa Rica and Honduras.

COMMENTARY CITES ARGENTINA'S CRUCIAL MOMENT

PA152359 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Feb 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] In truth, if I said the military's function in government has lost no prestige, I would be ignoring a tangible reality caused by various events. Those words were recently uttered in Buenos Aires by Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone. The reality to which the president referred is present, even though he did not specify it, in a number of conflicts caused by the serious economic situation that is a considerable burden on all the country's labor sectors.

Argentina ended 1982 with an inflation rate of more than 200 percent and began the new year with a 15-percent increase in the cost of living. If to this is added the 1.5 million unemployed and a foreign debt of more than $43 billion, the explosive social situation that threatens the country and that could explode at any moment is perfectly understandable.

The Economy Ministry and its head, Jorge Wehbe, have been attacked by all national sectors which, among other things, criticize the agreements with the IMF that only serve foreign interests and further impoverish the nation. It can be said that if the often-announced elections promised for the end of 1983 are not held, chaos will reign in the country. At this time, the elections have become the last hope for the military government, which admits that its administration has reached its end, and that the changes that the Argentine popular masses insistently demand must be implemented.

Recently, the multiparty group drafted a document evaluating the current national situation. The government said that the document was excessively hard. Although it is true that the multiparty report has a severe tone, it did not exceed its usual criticism of the militarymen. The politicians reiterated that power needs to be turned over on 12 October. They demanded substantial changes in the socioeconomic leadership. They requested clarification of the Malvinas conflict. They stressed the problem of those arrested and missing, and the excesses of the repression, and they demanded that those responsible be punished.

According to the Buenos Aires newspaper CLARIN, the reason for the militarymen's anger with the multiparty group is precisely the last point, because according to the newspaper, the armed forces are in a deadend regarding the issue of human rights.

The Argentine military junta finds it difficult to deny the recent statement of Gen (Ramon Camps), former police chief of Buenos Aires Province in 1975 and 1976. He said in Madrid that in Argentina there are no missing people alive. He admitted that the famous death squads that acted in civilian clothing and used Ford Falcons without license plates were military, police and security forces that obeyed the orders of the top military leadership. (Camps) added that he assumes full responsibility for the actions of the 30,000 men he directed during the repression.

It is evident that the lack of prestige of the Argentine Armed Forces — which has declined even further since the South Atlantic war — has been dealt a new blow with (Camps') statement, which has also unleashed a wave of protest among all the political sectors, and has come at a bad time for the military junta, which is involved in the organization of the elections. The crucial moment has arrived for the Argentine militarymen; to either publicly accept responsibility for those arrested and missing or to publish an official denial, something that is practically impossible.

MANAGUA TRIBUNAL DISCUSSES PLOT IN SURINAME

FL152350 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Managua — The anti-imperialist tribunal of our America has denounced a sinister conspiracy led by the Central Intelligence Agency — CIA — against Suriname. A statement released by the tribunal's presidency and executive committee pointed out that the plan's initial phase calls for the formation of an alleged national liberation movement whose objective, among others, is to destabilize the government headed by Lt Col Daysi Bouterse.

PRAVDA: CASTRO THANKS TO USSR LEADERSHIP

PM090945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 83 first edition p 1

[Text] The the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Council of Ministers.

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Communist Party, people and government of the Republic of Cuba I express to you my profound thanks for your fraternal congratulations on the 24th anniversary of the Cuban revolution's victory.

Convinced that the Soviet Union will continue its tireless struggle for peace, we hope that 1983 will be a year of new successes for the Communist Party, government and people of the fraternal land of the Soviets.

[Signed] Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers.

CASTRO PRAISES CYPRUS PRESIDENT ON ELECTION

FL160215 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today sent congratulations to Cypriot President Spiridhon Kiprianou for his triumph in last Sunday's elections. Fidel's message was delivered to Kiprianou by Cuban Ambassador to Cyprus Fermin Rodriguez Paz.

Kiprianou won the recent elections as candidate of a coalition formed between the ruling Democratic Party and the AKEL [Progressive Party of the Working People] communist party.

BARBADOS

TRINDAD TO SET UP HIGH COMMISSION IN BRIDGETOWN

FL111430 Georgetown Guyana Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] Trinidad and Tobago is to set up a high commission in Bridgetown, [Barbados] as soon as suitable accommodation is found in that country. This was announced by Trinidad's nonresident high commissioner to Barbados, Basil Pitt. He said the opening of a Trinidad and Tobago high commission in Barbados would see the beginning of full new chapter in relations between these two Caricom countries.

Mr Pitt, who is now in Bridgetown, opened talks with Energy Minister (Clyde Griffith) [Title, name as heard] on a number of matters. The talks deal with the question of payments for chemicals supplied by Trinidad for the refining of crude oil. Barbados wants to benefit from the [Caricom] external clearing facility rather than having to pay in cash for the chemicals. Last year Barbados spent $11 million in such imports.

ADAMS SAYS COUNTRY DEVELOPED DESPITE PROBLEMS

FL151850 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Feb 83 p 2

[Text] Prime minister and minister of finance, Mr Tom Adams, has said that despite the economic difficulties which Barbados has shared with the world, there has still been development in this country "and we must still plan and expect to carry our country forward to even greater prosperity."

Addressing members of the St Michael west central constituency branch of the Barbados Labour Party at their annual general meeting at the L.T. Gay memorial school, Wednesday night, the prime minister said that this country has had two bad years, but there was still hope for the future.

Mr Adams said that he could not accept the economic difficulties facing this country have been the fault of the government. He said that all over the world, the effect in the rise of oil prices which begun in 1973, has been felt.

"We have heard a lot about the oil crisis of 1973, but very few people really realise in 1979 and 1980 that there was an even greater crisis" said Mr Adams. "The price of oil went up by much more than it did in 1973 and 1974" he added.

The prime minister said further, that the oil bill for Barbados went from $36 million to nearly $90 million in 1981, and that every country in the world was "struck down" by the rocketing oil price.

He said that in Britain, the percentage of unemployed people was higher than it was in Barbados now, and the percentage of employed people was significantly lower, "because unlike Barbados, a lot of people are content to stay at home and not look for work and are therefore not classified as unemployed."

Mr Adams said too, that in the United States, unemployment was back at the level it was before the war when people starved in the streets. "There are Caribbean places, a place like Grenada where there are no more than 18,000 people at work, although the government of that country advertises itself as doing well, and that is not a bad percentage of their work force, when you compare it to some other countries in the Third World," he added.

According to the prime minister, this country, in the middle of the economic difficulties which it is having and which we share with the world, there has still been development, and still hope for the future.

"We must still plan and expect to carry our country forward to even greater prosperity," he said.

"We have had two bad years in Barbados, there is no doubt about it," he said. "We have suffered with the rest of the world and mankind in these two bitter years," he added.

Mr Adams said that the greatest part of the burden of economic distress in this country, "has undoubtedly been carried by the two major sectors, sugar and tourism."

He said that the earnings of sugar workers have fallen over the last two years, compared with what they were in 1980.

Mr Adams said that the sugar industry very nearly collapsed altogether, "and would have collapsed if the government had not taken emergency measures to support it."

Mr Adams pointed out that even the emergency measures taken by his government were not going to produce a good crop in 1983, because in 1981 the crop was ruined by weather. He said that in 1982, there was a carry over from 1981, people ceased to plant canes and in 1983, the amount of canes planted was insufficient to produce the volume that was required for prosperity in the industry.

"It is only the strenuous efforts made last year to plant more canes, which will produce a better crop next year, 1984" said Mr Adams.

"The sugar workers have had to carry a severe burden after the negotiations of 1981 in which we warned the Barbados workers' union not try to strangle the industry by demanding money that the industry could not pay," Mr Adams said. He continued: "We saw the results in the next two years, when despite the increase in pay, the workers worked for less money then they would have worked for when the pay was lower."

BERMUDA

PREMIER JOHN SWAN ANNOUNCES NEW CABINET

FL162215 Bridgetown CANA in English 2204 GMT 16 Feb 83

[By Ivan Clifford]

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, Feb 16, CANA -- Senator Irving Pearman, one of four candidates to wrest a seat from the opposition in the general election earlier this month, was today named a minister in Premier John Swan's new enlarged cabinet.

Mr Pearman was appointed to the new combined Ministry of Youth, Sport and Community Affairs, formerly two portfolios held respectively by Ernest Decouto, who has been dropped from the cabinet, and Senator Quinton Edness.

Mr Edness, who easily won back his House of Assembly seat in the election, takes over the sensitive Works, Housing, Agriculture and Fisheries Ministry from Dr John Stubbs, who has been switched to the newly-created Ministry of Industry and Technology.

Brought back into the 13-strong cabinet -- an increase of one -- is Dr Clarence James, who returns to his old Health and Social Services Ministry, in place of Ernest Vessey who takes over another new post, minister of legislative affairs.

Dr James, expected to be chosen tomorrow as the new deputy premier in place of Tourism Minister Jim Woolridge, withdrew from [the] cabinet after losing the race for the premiership to Mr Swan 13 months ago.

Senate (upper house) seats formerly held by Mr Edness and Mr Pearman have gone to unsuccessful election candidates Robert Barritt and hotelier Paul Leseur, the chairman of the ruling United Bermuda Party (UBP).

The extra four seats won in the general election enable the UBP to stretch its majority over the opposition Progressive Labour Party (PLP) to 12 in the island's 40-seat House of Assembly.

Opposition leader Mrs Lois Browne will announce her shadow cabinet tomorrow, a day before parliament reopens with the throne speech in which the government outlines its policies for the coming year.

The new cabinet is:

Premier -- John Swan
Minister of home affairs -- Sir John Sharpe
Minister of tourism -- C.V. "Jim" Woolridge
Minister of finance -- David Gibbons
Minister of marine, air and transport services -- William McPhee
Minister of education -- William Cox
Minister of planning and the environment -- Haskins Davis
Minister of health and social services -- Dr Clarence James
Minister of youth, sport and community affairs -- Irving Pearman
Minister of works, housing, agriculture and fisheries -- Quinton Edness
Minister of industry and technology -- Dr John Stubbs
Minister of legislative affairs -- Ernest Vessey
Minister without portfolio -- Charles Collis

DOMINICA

GOVERNMENT CONCERNED OVER BARBADOS' FRUIT IMPORT

FL091613 Bridgetown CANA in English 1523 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Feb 9, CANA -- The Dominica Government said today it was concerned that Barbados appeared to be allowing the importantion of fresh fruits from outside of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) while limiting similar imports from this country.

An official statement said: "The government concern stems from the situation of the Barbados market with grapefruits from non-Caribbean territories while those fruits which are allowed into Barbados from Dominica, a Caricom partner are being limited."

The statement added: "The trade principles of the Caribbean Community are opposed to preference being given to agricultural products outside of the area," said the government statement.

Talks have already begun between trade department officials in Dominica and representatives of the various marketing organisations in Barbados with a view to resolving the problem.

The government statement did not give the specifics of the issue and officials of the Dominica Hucksters' Association which handles grapefruit exports could not be contacted for a comment.

GRENADA

CARICOM GROUP BLAMES GUATEMALA FOR TALKS HALT

PA112134 Paris AFP in Spanish 0026 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] St Georges, 10 Feb (AFP) — Radio Grenada today said that Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's government interprets U.S. lifting of the ban on weapons sales to Guatemala as a threat to Belize. From another quarter, the Caricom secretariat blamed Guatemala for the halt in the talks with Belize to resolve the border problem that exists between the two states.

Radio Grenada said that "supplying weapons to the fanatical and genocidal Guatemalan regime is further evidence of the shameful and bloody character of U.S. imperialism."

GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS U.S. ARMS SALES TO GUATEMALA

PA132022 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Feb 83

[Text] The Government of Grenada and the New Jewel Movement have condemned the U.S. Government's decision to resume the supply of weapons to the Guatemalan regime. In a statement denouncing this, they stress that the supply of weapons to that fanatical and genocidal regime is one more proof of the shameless and bloody policy of U.S. imperialism in the area. They added that there is irrefutable proof that the Guatemalan regime exterminates entire communities and murders hundreds of people with its scorched-earth policy.

GOVERNMENT NOTES WARNING BY SURINAME'S BOUTERSE

FL150040 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 14 Feb 83

[Text] Lt Col Daysi Bouterse has urged the people of Suriname to enhance their vigilance in the face of the growing danger of an armed invasion by mercenaries. The Surinamese leader said the threat is coming from counterrevolutionary elements in the United States and Holland.

Col Bouterse said the Surinamese people would not make any concessions in their just struggle for liberation. He said the transformation process which started in Suriname in February 1980 was becoming a part of the broad anti-imperialist movement.

BISHOP ANNOUNCES ASSISTANCE FROM CUBA, OTHERS

FL141638 Bridgetwon CANA in English 1740 GMT 13 Feb 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Feb 13 CANA — Grenada is to receive assistance from Cuba, Venezuela, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to help in the upgrading of physical conditions at schools, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has announced.

He said the Cuban Government had agreed to donate 10,000 units of furniture this year, Venezuela had promised substantial assistance to the development of education and that UNESCO had contributed 30,000 dollars (U.S.) towards school furniture and equipment.

Mr Bishop said last week that the government had drawn up two major educational development plans for the island, with the first covering a three-year period and the other looking at education up to the turn of the 21st century.

PROJECTS ANNOUNCED MARKING COUP ANNIVERSARY

FL141627 Bridgetown CANA in English 1731 GMT 13 Feb 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Feb. 13, CANA -- The People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) of Grenada plans to launch 14 major projects to mark the fourth anniversary of the coup which toppled the administration of Eric Gairy on March 13, 1979, according to the chairman of the committee organising the celebrations, Trinidadian Keith Joseph. Joseph, who is also editor of the government-controlled FREE WEST INDIAN newspaper, told reporters the projects include a new telephone-system for the island and a housing plant donated by Cuba. The PRG, which held elaborate anniversary celebrations in the past three years, announced that next month's celebrations will be low-keyed, with the main highlight being Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's address to the nation.

HAITI

REFUGEES DENOUNCE ACTIVITIES OF NEW DEATH SQUAD

PA111323 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Text] Haitian refugees in Montreal, Canada, have charged that the Haitian dictatorship has created a new death squad called the (S-3). The squad was formed on 17 January during a meeting presided over by Jean-Claude Duvalier, chief of the regime, and Col Albert Pierre, commander of the Haitian political police. Pierre has been nick-named Tiboule.

The refugees noted that the terrorist organization has some 100 military and para-military elements and that it quickly began functioning. (Max Sansi), one of the Haitian leaders in exile, has charged that since the creation of the (S-3), the arrest and disappearances of popular leaders have increased.

JAMAICA

QUEEN ELIZABETH ON THREE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

Arrives 13 Feb

FL141930 Bridgetown CANA in English 1826 GMT 14 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 14, CANA -- Queen Elizabeth of Britain today praised Jamaica for its preservation of parliamentary democracy during 21 years of political independence and for making headway with its economy despite the severe world recession.

Said she: "It is reassuring that, as a commonwealth, we have stood together in recent times, as in the past, to face dangers and also to resolve problems. The unique strength and wisdom of the Commonwealth have derived from the rich diversity of races, peoples and cultures which have united to serve ideals and principles and common causes that outweigh individual differences."

Outside Gordon House, Parliament building, in downtown Kingston, the queen inspected a guard of honour, and after her address went to National Heroes Park, where she laid a wreath at the cenotaph. Gordon House is near to many ghetto communities and security was tight this morning, with armed policemen in the area at times making spot checks of vehicles and passersby.

The queen and her husband arrived here last night on the first stop of a western hemisphere trip that will also take them to the Cayman Islands, the United States, Canada and Mexico. They leave Jamaica on Wednesday.

Speech at Banquet

FL151752 Bridgetown CANA in English 1700 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb. 15, CANA -- Britain's Queen Elizabeth last night told Jamaicans that economic independence would be more difficult to achieve than the political freedom they gained nearly 21 years ago.

But at the same time she stressed that economic advance was not the most important yardstick with which to measure success in any community.

Visit Continues

FL152210 Bridgetown CANA in English 2045 GMT 15 Feb 83

[By Stewart Russell]

[Excerpt] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 15, CANA-REUTER -- Queen Elizabeth II was mobbed by excited schoolchildren today during a visit to the Jamaican tourist resort of Montego Bay and then, with a speech requiring considerable diplomatic tact, opened the interim headquarters of the international seabed authority in Kingston.

Britain has not yet signed the United Nations-sponsored international Law of the Sea Treaty, intended to regulate national exploitation of seabed resources for "the common benefit of mankind."

However, today Elizabeth was acting not as British monarch but as Queen of Jamaica, which after gaining independence in 1962 remains a monarchy within the British Commonwealth.

Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga told her pointedly that "we sincerely hope that those nations who have remained uncommitted or opposed to the treaty will before too long see the wisdom of participating in an undertaking which seeks to protect all, serve all and insure justice for all."

In her speech the Queen said modern technology was "in the process of opening up to man a vast new area of the world's surface by making possible the exploitation and use of seabeds.

"There was a clear duty for the United Nations to seek international agreement on how this was to be done," she said.

Departure for Cayman Islands

FL161646 Bridgetown CANA in English 1553 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb. 16, CANA -- Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Philip, left here today for the Cayman Islands after spending a hectic three days in this politically and socially complex former British colony now into its 21st year of independence.

The queen and Prince Philip arrived here Sunday and during their stay attended a plethora of functions and receptions in Kingston, the capital, and yesterday also made a brief visit to Montego Bay, 120 miles north-west of here.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

SOLOMON BLASTS JAMAICA ON EXCHANGE SYSTEM

FL102157 Bridgetown CANA in English 2026 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Feb 10, CANA -- Former Trinidad and Tobago deputy prime minister (1962-66), Dr. Patrick Solomon, has described Jamaica as "a clearly disruptive factor in the Caribbean Community, whose attitude to the rest of the region is one of "pure and unadulterated selfishness". The scathing attack by Dr. Solomon, in the EXPRESS newspaper, was triggered by recent economic measures adopted by Jamaica, which he felt constituted new barriers to Caricom trade.

The new two-tiered exchange system, he said, simply means that there will be two different rates of exchange for the Jamaican dollar; a more favourable rate in respect of those goods Jamaica badly needs, like essential foodstuffs and raw materials for her own factories, and a less favourable rate for anything else imported from Caricom markets and which could possibly compete with Jamaican products.

"It is more than time that the rest of the Caribbean woke up to the fact that Jamaica's attitude to the rest of the Caribbean is one of pure and unadulterated selfishness," he said, "and it matters little who governs the country, Michael Manley or Edward Seaga. Their objective has always been Jamaica first, last and all the time and we won't even thank you for contributing."

Dr. Solomon, who served under the late Prime Minister Eric Williams and was a member of the legislature from 1946, asserted that Jamaica was clearly a disruptive factor in the Caribbean Community, and it was time she was made to realise that her bullying tactics will get her nowhere.

"She broke up the (West Indies) Federation because, quite simply, she could not rule it and she would do the same to Caricom if she could. She must not be allowed to succeed,"" Dr. Solomon declared.

He suggested that the several Caricom governments must now begin to plan with one eye on Jamaican obstructionism. "When the idea of the Caribbean regional bank was first discussed," he said, "Jamaica was unwilling to participate on the terms mutually agreed by all the others and so the rest, thoroughly fed up with Jamaican obduracy, made two sets of plans, one to include Jamaica and one without her."

He added that when Jamaica realised she could not bully her way through, she joined so as to derive the obvious benefits. These, he said, would cost much more in Jamaican dollars, and be thereby rendered less competitive.

In addition, the ex foreign minister noted, Jamaica had also introduced a foreign exchange quota system applicable to Caricom as well as non-Caricom imports, showing none of that preference to Caricom countries which is implied in the whole idea of collaboration and free trade.

Dr. Solomon, once Trinidad and Tobago's permanent representative at the United Nations, said the same principle should be applied in the current situation. The rest of the Caribbean should strictly adhere to the Caricom treaty between themsleves and, if Jamaica will not observe the rules, then retaliatory measures -- at least -- should be instituted against her. "When she finds Caricom markets closed to her products, she will have to think again. If not, then perhaps we can explode once and for all the myth that Jamaica is essential to our continued existence," Dr. Solomon said.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND ACP-EEC MEETING IN JAMAICA

FL161504 Bridgetown CANA in English 1432 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 16, CANA -- Guyana will be sending a five member delegation to next week's meeting of the joint committee of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) and the European Economic Community (EEC) opening on Monday in Jamaica, the government announced here today. The delegation will be led by Dr Cecil Rajana of the Department of International Economic Co-operation of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, and will include Guyana's high commissioner to Jamaica Mr John Carter.

A government statement here said difficulties in implementing several arrangements made under the present Lome Convention which links the two blocs will feature at the seating. "Another issue expected to be discussed concerns the deepening of ACP-EEC co-operation, in the light of the negotiation of a successor agreement to Lome Two," the statement said.

Guyana was previously represented at such meetings by the former head of the International Economic Co-operation Department, Mr Lawrence Mann, who left the country last December to take up residence abroad.

FOREIGN RESERVES DECLINE, PAYMENT ARREARS RISE

FL161728 Bridgetown CANA in English 1629 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 16, CANA -- Guyana's international reserves declined by 176.8 million dollars (one Guy dollar: 33 cents U.S.) during 1982, while its external payment arrears went up to 147.4 million dollars, Vice President for Economic Planning and Finance Mr Desmond Hoyte said in his budget speech yesterday. He said these bald economic aggregates do not, however, high-light all the main aspects of Guyana's economic problems.

"More important than the unsatisfactory performance was the clear warning given by the external stringencies that some of our economic structures were unresponsive to the radically changed circumstances and therefore inappropriate to the times," he said. It becomes clear, Mr Hoyte said, that some major problems in the state enterprise sector had nothing to do with any alleged...inefficiency in the corporations themselves, but arose out of the way the sector is structured.

The vice president said the government commissioned a study of the state sector and on the basis of the report recently received, has taken certain policy decisions which are intended to correct the identified short comings and stimulate improved performance. "We need to motivate both our public sector and private sector entrepreneurs to be truly enterprising," he said. "Most important of all is the fact that with our very existence threatened, we must now rely in a mature manner, primarily on our own ordered efforts to survive in a hostile world environment," Mr Hoyte said.

GOVERNMENT OPENS BAUXITE TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

FL162055 Bridgetown CANA in English 1926 GMT 16 Feb 83

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 16, CANA -- Guyana, which nationalised its key bauxite industry more than a decade ago, will shortly sign contracts with foreign entrepreneurs to help put the declining sector back on its feet, it has been officially announced here.

Vice President for Economic Planning and Finance Desmond Hoyte, disclosed in yesterday's 1983 speech that "shortly, the industry will be signing contracts with one or more major transnational corporations, to do studies, and establish the steps required for its resuscitation, and long term viability."

"These studies, which are expected to take three to four months, from the date of signings, will be the basis for determining the form and content of the marketing and production management arrangements which the industry might require for its revival," he said. The vice president gave no further details.

Mr Hoyte said that bauxite, which with sugar and rice are Guyana's three main hard currency earners, registered a 33 per cent fall in exports last year. Bauxite production fell dramatically from 2.9 million tons in 1970 when the industry was owned by North American transnational cooperations, to 1.4 million tons in 1981.

Bauxite rice and sugar together netted Guyana 607 million dollars (one guy Dollar: 33 cents U.S.) last year, 230 million dollars below the 1981 income.

Resuscitation of the once thriving bauxite industry will be a key plank of government's 1983 programme for achieving a 13 per cent increase in exports of goods and services.

The vice president said the government will "also institute a system of foreign exchange accounts to facilitate the importation of needed spares and inputs by operations in (bauxite and other) selected sectors which are vital to the exprot thrust, and whose performance clearly accords with the national policy objectives." He said there will be an automatic allocation of a proportion of their export earnings for the import of needed spares and imputs.

Mr Hoyte also said "these arrangements which we are programming to be in place by the end of March, will bolster initiatives already taken to support manufacturing industries through the devices of the export development fund, the export promotion council, the Industrial Development Council, the industrial recovery programme to be financed by the Inter-American Development Bank, and special lines of credit being established on a government-to-government basis."

PPP URGES GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT SOCIAL PROGRAMS

FL141541 Bridgetown CANA in English 2126 GMT 12 Feb 83

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 12, CANA -- Guyana's official opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) has published a nine-point plan in which it calls on the government to introduce wide-ranging social programmes to alleviate the hardships being faced by many Guyanese. The plan, drawn up at a special two day meeting of the PPP's Central Committee at the end of January, calls among other things, for increased pensions, the establishment of a national school feeding programme and employment generation projects.

In a statement, the Marxist opposition party said the proposals formulated by its top policy making body were to meet "the falling standard of living of the masses" and fears they will have to shoulder more burdens this year as a result of Guyana's severe foreign exchange shortage. "The coming burdens may include a further wage freeze, more large scale sacking in the state sector, fresh taxation, further cuts in social services and more import cuts leading to greater shortages of consumer items," the statement said.

The PPP wants too a restructuring of the leadership of the Traders Union Council (TUC) "so that it can reflect the wishes of the workers and its affiliated unions on a democratic basis," according to the statement. The PPP, led by veteran Guyanese politician Dr Cheddi Jagan, contends that the TUC top brass comprises mainly government affiliated trade unionists.

The Guyana opposition party said a campaign must be launched to press the national insurance scheme [NIS] to pay increased pensions and benefits to contributors, including higher death benefits. It felt the agency could afford to do so because up to the end of December 1981, it had amassed a surplus of 389.5 million dollars (one Guy dollar: 33 cents U.S.), according to the statement.

"...the NIS made a surplus of 86.4 million dollars in 1981 as compared with a surplus of 67.1 million dollars in 1980, and that up to December 31, 1981, the accumulated NIS surpluses (from the inception of the scheme in 1969), reached the fantastic sum of 389.5 million dollars, compared to 303.1 million dollars on December 31, 1981," the PPP said.

The party called for old age pensions to be increased from the "woefully inadequate" level of 45 dollars to 100 dollars a month this year, increased government assistance to the poor and needy, and the start of unemployment relief by the NIS to thousands of displaced workers.

To back its call for the establishment of a national school feeding programme, the PPP said: "Children now attend school with only a cup of tea. This will provide the necessary nutrients to combat the scourge of malnutrition and hunger stalking the land today."

The PPP Central Committee plan demanded that government set up with urgency a programme of works, designed to create jobs as quickly as possible, "so as to alleviate the tremendous pressures on the unemployed thousands."

"This programme should have as its ultimate objective the ending of unemployment and under-employment in Guyana," the statement said.

Government has also been asked to undertake a comprehensive training programme for youths and the unemployed," the better to equip them to cope with the situation unfolding, and which skills will serve its performance under a new dynamic government.

The final aspect of the plan calls for the stepping up of efforts to bring about a national patriotic front government in Guyana, based on democracy, anti-imperialism and socialist orientation.

The party "declares that it is determined to get the nation moving forward again and to do so within its power to bring about the ouster of the PNC [Peoples National Congress] from the government by mass popular action, the PPP statement said.

EX-PRESIDENT SEEKS DUTCH AID TO OUST REGIME

PA160137 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Former Suriname President Henk Chin-A-sen, president of the Council for the Liberation of Suriname [CLS], has called for more Netherlands support for his cause. Chin-A-sen said that the CLS has a good image in the Netherlands, but there is a need for effective support. The Netherlands could do more through diplomatic channels than it has up to now. Chin-A-sen would also be pleased to receive financial support from the Netherlands.

In the next few days, Chin-A-sen will be visiting Venezuela, Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados in the framework of his diplomatic campaign against the Bouterse military regime in Suriname.

The former Suriname president said that little by little a resistance movement is growing inside Suriname, especially in the rural areas. Soon the CLS will distribute a written message to inform the people directly about its plans and objectives.

Peaceful Ouster Sought

PA170310 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] The Council for the Liberation of Suriname, established recently in the Netherlands, has outlined its objectives in a manifesto. Henk Chin-A-sen, president of the council and former president of Suriname, gave details on the subject during a news conference held in The Hague. Chin-A sen emphasized that the council wants to overthrow the present Surinamese regime, which is headed by military chief Daysi Bouterse, by peaceful means, particularly by means of political, diplomatic and economic pressure.

A representative of the council has been in Geneva to meet with the delegates of the UN Human Rights Commission. The representative received a pledge from some African and Asian delegations to discuss the subject of human rights violations in Suriname.

REGIME RELAXES RESTRICTIONS, REOPENS UNIVERSITY

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[Excerpt] Paramaribo, Suriname, Feb 16, CANA -- Suriname's military rulers have ordered the reopening of the country's university, closed during violent student demonstrations last December 8, have lifted restrictions on the holding of meetings, and have scrapped a special court set up in 1980 to hear allegations of corruption in the public sector, the official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) reported today. They have also allowed one of the privately-owned radio stations [Rani] ordered closed last December during political unrest to go back on the air, SNA said.

Moves to bring life back to normal in this South American, former Dutch colony were announced by army strongman Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse on Monday night in a speech carried on radio and television. They were recommended by former housing and social services minister, Errol Alibux, asked by the military authorities to form a new government, and by Suriname's ambassador to Holland, Henk Herrenberg, SNA said.

The university was reopened today. The ban on big assemblies, dating back to December when Bouterse said he smashed a plot to topple his administration, has already been lifted, with the big C-47 trade union taking the opportunity to hold a board meeting, SNA reported.